

RAIN TALK

FOR BOYS & GIRLS
AT SCHOOL, AND HOME, IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

VOL. IX.—No. 55.

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1890.

{ 50 Cents a Year.
5 Cents a Copy.

• Pictures Enlarged. •

HAVE YOU A DRAWING, PRINT, MAP, PLAT, ENGRAVING, PHOTOGRAPH, or any kind of PICTURE that you would like to have from two to ten times its size? If you have, then this is for you to read.

The enlarging of pictures has been quite a profitable business, and many firms employ agents at a good salary to solicit orders for such work. Are you satisfied with the prices you have been paying, or would you care to possess

AN ENTIRE ENLARGING OUTFIT

FOR LESS MONEY THAN YOU WOULD PAY FOR A SINGLE ORRER?

The outfit consists of a hard wood Pantograph which can be adjusted either to REDUCE a large picture or ENLARGE a small one.

50 Sticks Choice Willow Charcoal (French).

1 doz. Sheets of Royal Academy Charcoal Paper, assorted tints, size of sheet 19x25 inches.

2 sets of Corite Crayons.

1 doz. German Silver Thumb Tacks, and

1 doz. assorted sizes Paper Stomps. These Stomps are indispensable for toning down drawing; without their use more than twice as much time would be required to finish a picture.

This entire outfit, with directions for operating the Pantograph, will be mailed to any address in the United States for \$1.75. To insure greater safety, enclose 10 cents for registration. Parts of this outfit supplied at any time. As we have the only exclusive ART STORE in the city, we can favorably compete with any one in Artist's supplies. For holidays we are making a specialty of two fine lines of pictures suitable for presents, and well worth a handsome frame. Send for our circulars.

Remember, the entire outfit delivered by mail for \$1.75.

TOWNSEND & ROYER,

173 South Howard Street,

AKRON, OHIO.

E. R. Durborow,

PUBLISHER OF SHEET MUSIC,
203 South 10th Street, near Walnut Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.,

offer the following late issues of full sized sheet music at
10 cents each; 3 for 25 cents; 6 for 50 cents, or the 12 for \$1.

VOCAI.
Regret.
Little Fishermaden.
Maid of the Mill.
In the Bright Sunlight.
My Last Message.
Bailaybooly.
Killaloe.

INSTRUMENTAL.
York Waltz.
Fishermaden Waltz.
Orvetta Waltz.
Dramatic News Waltz.
Guard Mount.

Get complete list, and notice that we print all the more popular issues procurable in any cheap form. All guaranteed complete, and "cheap" only in price. See the goods.



F. SHEFFIELD
MANAGER.

SEND FOR
ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE
AND
PRICE LIST.

PLAIN TALK.

VOL. IX.

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1890.

No. 55.

An Adirondack Runaway.

By GEORGE H. WORDEN.

FRANK FOYE had long entertained the idea of running away. Nothing original in that, of course, in a boy of fifteen. However, in Frank's case, the object was not to "seek his fortune," but to visit the Adirondacks and discover the lurking place of deer and trout. To attain this end he had, from the generous supply of pocket money allowed him by his father, put in a secure place about fifty dollars.

His reasoning was of this sort:

"This is a very big world, and there is very much worth seeing in it, and if a man wants to see very much of it he must commence early. I have always been used tip-top here at home, and have had more than I deserved of everything, unless it was whippings, and not a boy in New York has a better father and mother than I, but it's just this way: here I've always been a baby, and always will be, and they don't seem to realize that I am growing to be a man. Every year, in August, when father goes up there in the mountains after deer and trout, he leaves me at home because, he says, I am not old enough to endure camp life, and the hardship of the woods. Why, I was never real tired in my life. Now father is obliged to stay in the city until October this year, on account of business, and I'll just write to that guide he tells so much about, Bill M'Ginnis, Wilmurt, Herkimer County, N. Y., and tell him just how things are, and have him meet me at the railroad, and then I'll slide away and see how it is myself."

So, with many precautionary hints to "keep it from father and mother" "mum is the word," etc., the letter was duly written and forwarded. For some reason it took a very long time to get a reply and the carrier, when it did arrive, would give it to no one but Frank personally, which was accounted for by the following direction on the lower left-hand corner of the large yellow envelope in large, bold-faced letters:

"STRICTLY PRIVAT DELIVER TWO
NO PERSON BUT FRANK FOYE
BEGOORA BILL MAGINNIS."

In the seclusion of his own room, with the door fastened on the inside, Frank opened the mysterious looking letter and found it to contain instructions from the guide to say

nothing to his father or mother, but to take the train, on August 9th, for Utica, where he would meet him.

Now, the truth may as well be told here as elsewhere. The guide, M'Ginnis, was a doubleface. When he received and read Frank's letter he immediately enclosed it in another to Frank's father, asking what he should do, in due time getting this reply:

DEAR OLD COMRADE: Let the boy come up, but make him believe that it is a regular runaway. It may be an easier one than you and I had in war days, and he will have no such experience as the artillery service, but give him a good one and all he will stand. All boys have it to go through, and the quicker they get it over the better. Have no mercy on him as long as he is well; if he is sick let me know by telegraph. He is safe enough in your hands.

Truly yours,

J. B. FOYE.

Little suspecting the trap thus prepared for him by these

grizzled veterans, Frank, equipped as directed, met his guide, M'Ginnis, at Bagg's Hotel, in Utica, at 10 A. M., on August 10th. At first sight the appearance of M'Ginnis was not the most pleasing. He was six feet two inches tall in his stockings, very broad-shouldered, thin and muscular, with hair and mustache originally red, now about half gray. A sabre stroke had ruined any facial beauty he may have possessed by leaving a scar across his nose and left cheek. It must be confessed that Frank had a slight attack of home-sickness at first sight of this formidable looking giant who was to be his companion for the next month or more in the wilderness, but he had put his shoulder to the wheel, and he shut his teeth firmly together as he resolved to abide the consequences of his act.

At noon they started on the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad for Prospect, at which village they took dinner, and from there to Wilmurt, a distance of sixteen miles, was made with the horse of the guide. They reached his house at 7 o'clock and found a substantial supper awaiting their arrival.

The evening was spent in cleaning up and oiling the rifles, and assorting flies and hooks and mending rods. Then the packs had to be loaded with their provisions and clothing, a leather case made to fit over the sharp edge of the axe, hob nails to be put in shoes, all of which being duly accomplished with a running dissertation on the same by the voluble M'Ginnis, bed and sleep were ordered.

In the course of his remarks Bill had alluded to the anx-



ity of Frank's parents when they discovered his absence. Frank had not thought of this before, and now remorse kept him awake a long time, but at last he fell into the deep sleep of boyhood, only to be awakened immediately, he thought, as it was yet dark, by the heavy voice of Bill below:

"Get up betimes, lad, till we have a bite an' a sup, an' skerry aff fer the woods. Up wid yees and hurry on the duds."

Rubbing his eyes and stumbling about in the early light of dawn, he managed to get inside of such clothing as he could find, and going down stairs he found the coffee steaming on the stove and breakfast awaiting him. A quick wash from a basin outside, and he was ready.

Again the old horse was hitched to the wagon, packs thrown in, and with Mrs. M'Ginnis along to drive the horse back, the enthusiastic, but by no means gorgeous, cavalcade started.

All could ride to the "Watkins place," which was on the border of the forest; beyond and to the outlet of Jack's lake, a distance of five miles, the horse had to be led, and with guns on their shoulders, M'Ginnis and Frank followed on foot, while the elderly but agile Mrs. M'Ginnis did the leading.

At the outlet, which was reached shortly before noon, the horse and Mrs. M'Ginnis turned about and started for home, leaving our adventurers to reach their destination, Indian River, two or more miles distant, as best they could, which was to shoulder their packs and luggage (Frank's outfit weighed about sixty pounds) and tramp it over bogs and tree tops, following a dimly "blazed trail" on the left side of the stream.

On either side of the outlet the mountains towered up into the blue sky, and as far as the eye could reach the dense forest growth was unbroken. The outlet emptied into the West Canada Creek, a tributary of the Mohawk, and directly opposite, over its rocky bed tumbled the foaming waters of Metcalf Creek, the three streams mentioned being fairly alive with brook trout.

The early breakfast, the hard tramp of the forenoon, and the appetizing atmosphere of the mountains, all conspired to make Frank hungry, and he mildly suggested a lunch before the start for their final destination.

"Sorra a bite ye'll get, me laddy, until the camp is made, wood for the noight is cut and brought up, and preparations made again the wolves and panthers. Faix, an' if it's a hunther ye'z 'ud be, ye'z musht go widout atin for a wake at a toime, be pestherin, but on wid the duffle an' folly me."

Oh, that never ending tramp! Frank will not soon forget it. The pack basket cut into the hollow of his back; the straps cut his shoulders; the gun and rod he was carrying in his hands were always in his way, and to add to the horrors of the situation, one of his shoes commenced to hurt his foot terribly. On and still on went M'Ginnis, not once hinting about a rest until nearly three o'clock, just as Frank was about to drop, they came suddenly upon the boisterous torrent called Indian River. Down went the pack from M'Ginnis' shoulders, and down in a heap beside it tumbled Frank more dead than alive. Not a word of pity, however, did Frank get from his sturdy guide, who shouldered the axe and stalking into the woods, said:

"Frank, me b'y, when ye'z are a bit reshted, come where ye doos be hearin' the axe, an' bring down the barruk an' poles for the makin' of a foine shanty, do ye mind."

After a time the runaway crept slowly out of his harness, every bone in his body aching severely, but he was his father's son, and crawling to his feet he muttered:

"It is my own doing, and nobody but myself ought to be blamed, so I'll not flunk now if it kills me. Here goes to make a pack-mule of myself."

Bill had peeled from the trunks of spruce trees pieces of bark about four feet long, and from the bodies had cut logs varying in length from eight to ten feet. Frank shouldered as much of the bark as he could carry at one time and took it to the place where the camp was to be located.

In a short time the bark was on the ground, and with Bill's help the logs were brought and placed in position as a foundation for the back and two sides, the front being left open; then crocheted poles were cut and driven into the ground on either side, and others placed across to support the covering. The bark was then tacked on with small nails, first on the sides, then on the sloping roof, lapping

them shingle fashion. Then a pole was stretched across the front to place the feet against and to keep out the coals from the fire. The ground inside was covered to a depth of six inches with hemlock boughs to make the bed, and Bill announced:

"The cabin is completed, an' a beautiful wan it is, by the same token, an' now av ye'z'll skerry yon and bring down a small tashte av wood, it's mesif 'll show ye'z wan av the illigantest fires that iver toasted a man's shins, an' we'll have a supper fit for a lord."

To say that Frank obeyed this last order with alacrity but feebly expresses it. His stomach was about collapsing, and the expectation of food was an incentive and stimulant without which he would have probably given up in despair.

The coffee was soon steaming in their tin cups, and the supper, though eaten from a piece of spruce bark as a table, seemed to be the best Frank had ever tasted.

After supper the dishes were cleared away, a large back log placed against the fire, which was to burn all night, the blankets were spread over the boughs, coats rolled up for pillows, and the last Frank remembered as he dozed away to his first night's sleep in the woods was the figure of Bill, who appeared about twelve feet high, standing with his back to the fire smoking a black pipe and giving a rather incoherent account of a fight with a panther on this very ground about eight years before.

The next day was devoted entirely to chopping and bringing up wood, until a pile three times the size of the shanty loomed up. It was manual labor in its most expressive sense, and Frank was not a whit less tired the second day than the first, and complacently let fall the words that he "didn't see where the fun come in."

"Fun! An' it is fun yer wantin'?" Sure it all fun in the woods; shamll taste ise; if ye'z are thinkin' this is wurruk, jist bide a bit till ye shoulders a two hundred pound buck down aff the mountain two miles beyant."

After this outburst Frank manfully performed the work assigned him, until Bill gave notice to quit for supper.

The four following days were spent in fishing on the "cold beds" for enough trout to eat, and in exploring the woods and "run-ways." It was a long time before Frank could hook a trout properly and take him out of the water.

After a number of trout had been thrown to the tops of the tallest trees, Frank, with the running advice of Bill, had learned that they could be taken more surely with less exertion of strength, and profited by the knowledge thus acquired. About the run-ways numerous deer tracks or signs were discovered, and all the nervous expectations of the neophyte began to assail Frank. It was not legal to put out their dog until the fifteenth of the month, so he was as patient as was to be expected under the circumstances.

"It's mesif is as poor as Job's turkey, but, me lad, I'll wager me could horse beyant again three days' grub that ye'z don't kill the first deer ye pop yer two eyes on; aye, an' av ye'z do I'll give ye the ould horse right out, an' if ye'z miss, thin ye are to go widout atin for three days; what says you, me b'y?"

"No," said Frank, "I'm not going to starve any more, but you'll see that I am not so green with a gun as you imagine. Jist show me the deer, and you will see me make short work with him."

"Mayhap, me lad, mayhap; but I'm thinkin' ye must aete a dale of pork and praties before ye'z cud wear yer ould fayerth's clothes, by the same token."

The next morning, after a hearty breakfast, Bill took the hound and started up the mountain, giving Frank instructions to listen for the sound of the dog barking and to get near the creek upon some run-way near the course taken. If a deer came in sight he was to shoot when within proper distance. Bill carried a gun and would watch any opportunity which might offer.

For a long time Frank tramped up and down the borders of the stream, listening to every sound which broke the monotony of the stillness of the forest, anticipating the welcome bark, which seemed a long time coming. At last a faint "yup-yoo" was heard near the mountain top. Gradually it came nearer, and Frank looked cautiously around him. About fifteen rods from where he stood was one of the most famous run-ways of the Adirondacks, and where it led out the creek formed a deep pool about twenty yards across.

On either side the woods were very dense. Frank secre-

ted himself with gun in hand, and his breath came short and fast and his heart almost stopped beating. On and on came the deer and "ya-oop, ya-oop" called the hound close behind. Now they were almost in sight, and "hump-e-te-thum, thump-e-te-hump" beat Frank's unruly heart as he scarcely dared to breathe. Then, in an instant, out from the red and green foliage sprang a magnificent buck, and plunging into the pool in the twinkling of an eye he was upon the opposite side, and with a bound his wide and lofty antlers disappeared in the thicket.

Frank had gazed at the wonderfully beautiful apparition, which was gone so quickly, in a dazed sort of a way, and for a brief moment lost his head in admiration; then it was too late to act, and his opportunity was gone. While he stood there vainly regretting, the hound, closely followed by M'Ginnis, came up.

"An' phat's the razon yez didn't shoot?"

"Don't say a word, Bill, and I'll go without eating for a week. I forgot all about having a gun and what I was here for. Never tell father about this and I'll make you a present of a ten dollar gold piece."

"Niver a cint o'ill take, me mighty hunter, for it's afeared o' am that o'ill be tellin' it in me shlap, but it's meself that'll be kapin' the ould horse beyant, do ye mind?"

It was a bitter disappointment to Frank, and the more he thought of the splendid shot he might have made the worse he felt; but regrets were vain, and he had to suffer the taunts of the unmerciful M'Ginnis uncomplainingly. Even the dog sniffed disdainfully at his legs, and looking first at the gun and then at him, seemed to be cogitating on the connection one bore the other.

Not a word was said about deer hunting for a week after this, and Frank strolled about the woods at will, making himself familiar with the trails and run-ways, asking as few questions as possible, but doing some very deep thinking. He had evidently made himself the laughing stock of old hunters, but he would yet redeem himself and show M'Ginnis that he was a boy who could improve.

"One morning, after breakfasts, M'Ginnis told him that he was going home for some more supplies, and cautioned him not to be "meddling with the guns."

"All right," said Frank, "I'll keep everything running, and have you a good supper when you return. Don't worry about me."

"Niver a worry wud I while me name is ould Bill M'Ginnis, but kape yer head on yer shouldrers, an' don't break a leg or an arm, me lad."

After Bill's departure Frank made up his mind that his opportunity had arrived. He first cleaned up and arranged the camp, then shouldering his gun he started for the pool where he had seen the buck, something over a mile distant. The hound had followed Bill out to the "clearing." Upon arriving at the run-way he perceived that the signs were plenty and fresh. He sat down in a little thicket on the side opposite where the wind was blowing, and determined to await events.

He had not been there long before he heard a rustling up the trail, and the next moment out upon the bank of the stream came the buck he had seen the week before, or his exact double. This time he did not plunge into the stream, but, with antlers erect, gazed about him. Very carefully Frank placed his gun to his shoulder, and taking aim back of the foreleg, fired. It was a crack shot, and the deer did not move three paces before he dropped dead. Up to this time Frank had been perfectly cool, but when he came to bleed his game his hand trembled so he could scarcely hold the knife.

Then he sat down to think. The deer weighed nearly twice as much as he, and it was a problem how to get it down to camp, for get him to camp he must, and that before the arrival of M'Ginnis.

In his belt he carried a small hatchet, and with this he proceeded to cut two birch poles about twenty feet long. Laying these upon the ground about two feet apart he proceeded to weave a sort of basket with small birch whips or wythes near the middle; then he took the deer and fastened it securely upon this basket. Then taking the two large ends of the poles under his arms, in the manner of a horse between the thills of a cart, he started slowly for camp.

It was a laborious journey, but Frank had been ridiculed

over his previous discomfiture so much that he was determined to make a striking success of this last venture, at whatever cost.

At last, after many mishaps and bruises, he succeeded in getting to camp with his freight, and found everything as he had left it. He sat down to rest and cogitate what to do next. The deer must be dressed and hung up in a cool place, but he was ignorant how to proceed with the work. While he sat there he seemed to hear the sound of a familiar voice mixed with the songs of the birds near him.

"Bogorra, he has a big wan, sir; the rale ould king of the woods; as big a wan as o've seen this many a year. Bedad, he's a foine lad, and has the makins of a bether man than aither wan iv us, some o' those foine days, belokee."

"How the little rascal has tanned up. He is as brown'n's an Indian."

Frank recognized the voice of his father instantly, and rushed pell-mell into the bushes from whence the sounds proceeded, and a joyous meeting ensued. Mutual explanations soon revealed to Frank that his was a very peculiar runaway, and, as his father remarked, few turn out as fortunately.

As it was not yet two o'clock the buck was dressed and hung up before the afternoon had gone, and that night a trusty messenger was despatched to Utica, where the head was properly stuffed and mounted and in due season forwarded to New York to be the admiration of all of Frank's friends.

For three weeks longer they stayed in the woods, and when they returned M'Ginnis accompanied them as far as Utica. As he was saying "good-bye," he whispered aside to Frank:

"An' whin ye does be thinkin' av runnin' away the nixt toime be sure an' write till ould Bill M'Ginnis on the shly."

Pat's Deception.

AN INSIDE car-full of travelers was toiling up one of the long hills in the county Wicklow. The driver leaped down from his seat in front and walked by the side of the horse. The poor beast toiled slowly and wearily, but the six inside were too busily engaged in conversation to notice how slowly the car progressed.

Presently the driver opened the door at the rear of the car and slammed it to again. The passengers started, but thought the driver was only assuring himself the door was securely closed. Again the fellow opened the door and slammed it to again. The travelers turned around angrily, and asked why he disturbed them in that manner.

"Whist," whispered the fellow; "don't spake so loud—she'll overhear us."

"Who is she?"

"The mare. Spake low," he continued, putting his hand over his nose and mouth. "Sure I'm desavin' the crature! Every time she hears the door slammin' that way she thinks one of yez is gettin' down to walk up the hill, and that rises her sperrits."

The insiders took the hint.—*Tid Bits.*

The Wealth of the United States.

EXPERTS now place the actual wealth of the United States at \$61,459,000,000. Its property assessed for taxation upon the duplicates is \$23,719,000,000. Some idea of this amount can be had by remembering the fact that it is greater than the wealth of the entire world 150 years ago.

A Latin One.

OF DR. KEATE many anecdotes are afloat among old Etonians. A boy named Rashleigh, with all the others of his class, was set to write a theme on the maxim; *Temere nil facias*. When the time came for giving in the papers, Rashleigh appeared without his. "Where is your theme, sir?" asked the formidable Doctor. "I haven't done it, sir!" answered Rashleigh. "Not one your theme, sir?" "No, sir!" persisted he, undaunted by the near prospect of the "apple twigs." "Why, you told me not to do it!" "I told you?" "Yes, sir; you said *Temere nil facias*—do nothing, Rashleigh." And the headmaster was so taken by the Latin pun that the apple twigs were allowed to repose on the shelf.—*The Churchman.*

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

This department is under special editorial supervision. Contributions solicited. Address "REBECCA SUNSHINE," in care of PLAIN TALK.

Hints on the Care of Canaries.

IT IS a responsibility to own a pet of any kind. Its food, comfort and happiness all depend upon us, and the least we can do is to study its habits and tastes that we may the better minister to it.

Birds often suffer from being placed in draughts, too near the stove, or where the sun shines full on them in such a way that they cannot escape its glare. They delight in sunshine, and should always have the morning sun if possible; but never forget they are caged and cannot help themselves.

A brass wire cage suspended by a spiral spring, and properly supplied with cups, perches and swing, is the best possible, and if this be not hung too high—say three feet from the ceiling, where draughts cannot reach them, and in a room where the temperature ranges from 50° to 70°, you have made a good beginning in the care of your pets. They should not be left thought the night in a room where the fire goes out; though they will, without injury, endure a considerable degree of cold, provided a double paper is pinned about the cage, of course leaving an opening for ventilation. This covering should always be used when you are obliged to carry birds from place to place, as a protection against cold and frost.

Canaries are creatures of habit, and the bath should be offered and food given at the same hour each day, as early in the days as convenient. It is much better to have the birds bathe outside the cage, as they will readily learn to do if taught while young. Set the tub in a sink or on a table over which you have spread a newspaper.

The food should consist of the best Sicily canary seed, plump and free from dust, and German rape, in the proportion of three-fourths of the former to one-fourth of the latter. Occasionally give a little millet and a few hemp seeds now and then for a treat, or as a reward when teaching some trick. If these are given only from the fingers or lips, the bird will soon become very tame. Cattle bone must be kept by them constantly, and plenty of fine gravel or sand strewn on the paper covering the tin bottom. Every other day in summer they may have a bit of chickweed or lettuce, preferably the latter, and once a week in winter a bit of cabbage or sweet apple. The seed of the common plantain is much relished by them, and may be gathered and dried as an addition to the winter bill of fare, which you may also supplement with a bit of cracker or stale bread, but never give cake, sugar or candy if you wish to keep them in full health and song.

The cages must be cleaned at least every other day in summer and twice a week in cold weather, at the same time scalding the perches and scrubbing the water cups. A brass cage will retain its pristine gloss for a long time if properly cared for. Once a week wet a bit of old linen and gently rub the cage, wire by wire, finishing with a dry cloth or cambric. Hot water will entirely spoil the cage.

If the cages are kept clean and well supplied with gravel the birds, unless very old, will seldom have sore feet. If rough and scaly, soak in tepid milk and water or warm sudas made from castile soap. The proper size for perches is one-half inch in diameter, tapering somewhat at the ends; smaller ones cause deformities of the feet. If the claws grow so long as to be troublesome, take the bird firmly but gently in the hand, and with sharp scissors clip the ends, but not cutting within an eighth of an inch of the quick.

If a canary sits bristled up, with its head under its wing, in the daytime, it is ill, and probably suffering from neglect or improper food. For a cold give a red pepper and tiny scraps of fat pork twice a week, with a diet of cracker and hard-boiled egg, though the seed need not be removed. For costiveness give green food, and for diarrhoea put a rusty nail in the drinking cup. Birds are sometimes afflicted with a skin disease which gives them much discomfort, besides causing the feathers to drop. For this rub the spots with pure olive oil, and for a few days give a diet of rape seed and raw grated carrot.

The moulting season is a very trying period for all birds,

and with the canary occurs from June to September, though illness or too much heat may cause the feathers to fall at other times. While moulting special care must be taken to keep them from draughts and in an even temperature. In addition to the regular diet they should have the yolks of hard-boiled eggs, red pepper, and if very dumpish, a little saffron in the drinking water. They often suffer much in spite of care, become dull and lose the voice. If the voice does not come back when in full feather, hang the bird where he will hear another singer, and if imitative he will learn new notes.

Any reliable dealer in birds will apply a powder for the extermination of parasites, but this may often be accomplished by nightly covering the top of the cage with a piece of cotton flannel which must be taken off early next morning and scalded. If this fails, use perches made from an elder stem with the pith removed. The mites seek shelter in these during the day and are killed by scalding.

H. M. GEORGE.

Care of House Plants.

IN order to succeed with house-plants, care must be taken to keep the red spider, aphid and white earth worms away, or you will have no blooms. For the first, spray liberally with water. Set the plant in a large tub or pan and wash thoroughly all the leaves. For the second, use insect powder with a small bellows, or sulphur fumes. For earth worms, a teaspoonful of ammonia to half a gallon of water is said to kill them.

I always take slips of geraniums, and all plants wanted for winter blooming the next year, in February or March, start them in soil kept in the cellar for that purpose during the winter, using a small box three inches higher at the back than in front and covered with a pane of glass. When well rooted, I transfer them to small pots. A five-inch pot is plenty large enough for geraniums to bloom in. Keep the buds pinched off all summer, and also pinch out the tops to make them bushy.

Chinese primroses do best for me raised from seed planted in April or May. They will bloom nicely the following winter. It is quite a study to plant and raise them properly.

My window was lovely last winter. I had hyacinths in bloom after December 15th—pink, white, and dark and light purple. I think they are the nicest things for an amateur that I have yet found, and are so easy to grow. I obtained mine the first of November, planted them in good soil, with the crown of the bulb just below the surface, put them down cellar on a swinging shelf, and left them there just a month. Then I brought them to the sitting-room a few at a time, in order to secure a succession of bloom. The white Romans bloom first, and then the double ones. I had quite as good success with the double as with single varieties.

To make my roses bloom, I use soot tea once a week. Care must be taken not to use it too strong. The water ought to be just colored with it. Wash them at least twice a week when they are kept in a sitting-room window, and always keep water on the stove in cold weather. When they have bloomed cut off the flower stem and a good sized slip with it. Put the cutting in your slip box to root, and in this way increase your stock. Roses must always be pruned as they flower only on new wood.

If you have no flowers, by all means get a few. They are not much trouble, as compared with the amount of pleasure they give.

HELEN DEANE.

The Doings of Women.

THE Massachusetts Institute of Technology has thirty-three women students.

Paris has more than one thousand women printers.

The Empress of Japan and her suite made a trial of Paris made gowns, but were soon glad to return to their native costumes.

New York has a Woman's Press Club, with Mrs. J. C. Croly (Jennie June) as president.

Mrs. Elliott F. Shepard is having erected for the New York Young Women's Christian Association a Woman's Lodging House. It is to cost \$200,000.

Latest Fashion Notes.

EFFEL-RED is just now a popular color. It is a union of terra-cotta and old rose, but prettier than either. White lambs'-wool is frequently used to trim gray house dresses, and to border childrens' wraps.

Shoulder-cape is more popular than ever, if possible. Skirts remain simple, almost to severity.

Black feather trimming is fashionable on evening wraps, when fur is not desired.

Velvet sleeves are inserted in gowns composed entirely of other materials.

Sashes that start from the side seams, and are knotted at the point of the basque, are much worn, and they form a very pretty finish, especially on a plain skirt.

Small reeds are used in skirts of heavy material.

Sleeves are arrayed as high on the shoulders and as full as the figure will permit; below the elbows they may either be in plain coat-sleeve shape, or be simply deep cuffs.

A Perfect Home.

THE LATE Helen Hunt Jackson, writing of a perfect home, said: "The most perfect home I ever saw was a little house into the sweet incense of whose fires went no costly things. A thousand dollars served as a year's living for father, mother and three children. But the mother was the creator of a home; her relations with the children were the most beautiful I have ever seen; every inmate of the house involuntarily looked into her face for the keynote of the day, and it always rang clear. From the rose, or clover leaf, which, in spite of her hard housework, she always found time to put beside our plates at breakfast, down to the story she had in hand to read in the evening, there was no intermission of her influence. She has always been and will always be my ideal of a mother, wife, and homemaker. If to her quick brain, loving heart, and exquisite face had been added the appliance of wealth and enlargements of wide culture, hers would have been absolutely the ideal home. As it was, it was the best I have ever seen."

All About a Ring.

CHARLES LAMB one night at a supper party noticed a handsome widow, sitting near him, wearing a gold circlet on her thumb. She penciled on her menu:

"For pleasures past and joys to come
I wear this ring upon my thumb."

Under this the stuttering poet responded:

"You've another thumb, my lady dear,
And another lover sitting near,
Who'd give his chance of the world to come
To place a ring on that other thumb."

Tender Plants at Night.

A SUCCESSFUL New Hampshire flower-grower says she doesn't allow frost bites on her plants so long as she has a two-gallon jug in the house and can get up hot water. She first coats the jug with layer after layer of paper to keep in the heat and also to modify it. Then, in severe nights she places this jug on her centre table and all around it her tender plants, and over all a sheet or waterproof cloak, supported by some sticks thrust into the pots. This method carries the plants safely through any kind of a cold night.

Keeping Cut Flowers.

LADIES who surround the stems of their corsage bouquets with moistened powdered willow charcoal, which may in turn be wrapped in moss or cotton, will find their flowers remaining fresh long after the departure of all beauty from those of their less thoughtful neighbors. The same substance placed in the bottom of the vase in which flowers are kept will be very useful, provided the stems are cut off with a sharp knife once or twice a day.

A classical fellowship for girls has been endowed at the Michigan University by Mrs. Elisha Jones, who has given \$10,000 for this purpose.

Learn to be Housekeepers.

BEGIN with your own possessions, girls. Reform your upper bureau drawer; relieve your closet clogs of their accumulation of garments out of use a month or two ago. Institute a clear and careful order, in the midst of which you can daily move, and learn to keep it so that it will be a part of your toilet to dress your room and its arrangements while you dress yourself, leaving the draperies you take off as artistically and lightly hung, or as delicately folded and placed, as the skirts you loop carefully to wear, or the ribbon and lace you put with a soft neatness about your throat. Cherish your instincts of taste and fitness in every little thing you have about you. This will not make you fussy, it is the other thing that does that, the not knowing, except by fidgety experiment, what is harmony and the intangible grace of relation.

Take upon yourself gradually, for the sake of getting them in hand in like manner, if for no other need, all the cares that belong to your own small territory of home. Have your little wash cloths and your sponges for bits of cleaning; your furniture brush and your feather duster, and your light little broom, and your whisk and pan; your bottle of sweet oil and spirits of turpentine, and piece of flannel to preserve the polish, or restore the gloss where the dark wood has become dim or spotted. Find out, by following your surely growing sense of thoroughness and niceness, the best and readiest ways of keeping all fresh about you. Invent your own processes; they will come to you. When you make yourself wholly mistress of what you can learn and do in your own apartments, so that it is more easy and natural for you to do it than to let it alone, then you have learned to keep a whole house, so far as its cleanly ordering is concerned.—*St. Nicholas.*

Personal and Impersonal.

MRS. FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT enjoys an income of about \$50,000 a year, made up of the royalties paid her on the play of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" and on the sale of her books, together with her editorial salaries and the like. The New York *Ledger*, alone, pays her \$15,000 for a serial, and she gets \$7,500 a year for editing a children's department for a syndicate of newspapers.

Women artists were admitted to the Royal Academy only fifteen years ago. At the last exhibition 242 out of 1,900 exhibits were by women.

Mrs. Mary Lowe Dickinson receives a salary of \$3,000 as professor of *belles lettres* in the University of Denver.

Vienna, at least, accords to women their right to men's work. There they carry hods and mix mortar.

There are in New York city something like 160 women physicians.

The Baby's Mother.

IT WAS on a Pennsylvania Railroad train, coming north from the city of Washington.

All the passengers but two in the sleeper had dozed off. The exceptions were a young man and a baby.

The former was willing to follow the example of the majority, but the latter objected in a loud voice. Its cries awoke the other passengers, and some pretty strong language was heard.

The young man got out of his berth and carried the baby up and down the car, trying to soothe it. But the baby was fretful, and its voice would not be stilled.

Finally a gray-headed man, who was evidently an old traveller, stuck his head out from behind the curtains and called to the young man in a sharp voice:

"See here, sir, why don't you take that child to its mother. She will be able to manage it much better than you. It evidently wants its mother."

"Yes, that's it," echoed other irritated passengers. The young man continued to pace up and down for a moment, then said in a quiet, strained voice:

"Its mother is in the baggage car." There was an instantaneous hush. The gray-headed man stuck his head out into the aisle. "Let me take it a while," he said, softly; "perhaps I can quiet it."

THE

American Archaeological Association.

President, A. F. BERLIN, Allentown, Pa.
 Vice-President, Dr. D. S. MCARTHUR, Lacrosse, Wis.
 Secretary, ALVAH DAVIDSON, 176 Broadway, N. Y. City.
 Treasurer, E. J. SHERIDAN, 208 Adelphi Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Librarian, CHAS. A. PERKINS, Wakefield, Mass.
 Exchange Superintendent, J. R. NISSLEY, Ada, Ohio.
 Counterfeit Detector,
 Board of Trustees, JOS. WIGGLESWORTH, Wilmington Del.; E. J. ROCKWOOD, 10
 Canal Street, Worcester, Mass.; G. L. FANCIE, West Vinland, Conn.

Secretary's Report.

IN VIEW of the growth of the association and the manifest interest it is now creating, the Official Board have decided to have the Constitution and By-Laws printed in book form for distribution to the members. The matter has been put in the printer's hands and will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

Mr. Perkins, the librarian, has made a photograph of the members of the Official Board, as including Messrs. Richmond and Nissley. These are mounted on a card about five by twelve inches, and show excellent work on the part of the artist. The name and office of each appears under their respective pictures.

To the members of the association who desire one of these photographs, Mr. Perkins offers to send them at only thirty cents each, postpaid. They are dirt cheap at this price, and if the members would like to see what their officers look like, they will be accommodated by remitting the price to the Librarian.

The applications have fallen off somewhat this month, but I trust the following months will make up for it. Members will please notice the Secretary's change of address.

Following is a list of

NEW MEMBERS.

No. 25.—L. V. McWhorter, Berlin, W. Va.
 No. 26.—Austin E. Bush, Scranton, Pa.
 No. 27.—Richard O'Flynn, 244 Front St., Worcester, Mass.
 No. 28.—Fred. Rowell, 95 Atlantic St., Stamford, Conn.
 No. 29.—L. M. Bigelow, Simsbury, Conn.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.

C. F. Mosely, Bergen, N. Y. REFERENCES: Geo. H. Richmond; E. J. Rear-don, Bergen, N. Y.
 G. W. Robinson, Flag Pond, Va. REFERENCES: Wm. Robins, J. C. Early.

If no objections are received to the persons in the list before March first, they will then be entitled to membership upon payment of dues.

ALVAH DAVIDSON,

Secretary.

Report of the Librarian.

THE library grows slowly. I have received during the month a lot of clippings from J. R. Nissley, also a number of pamphlets from W. K. Moorehead of the Smithsonian Institution, with the promise of his work on Fort Ancient as soon as it is out of press, and from Hon. Stephen T. Hopkins, through Louis D. Hopkins of Catskill, N. Y., the Report of the Bureau of Ethnology for '83 and '84, a large work of 640 pp. I have also the promise of several more books on the subject from a friend of the Society.

CHAS. A. PERKINS,
 Librarian.

Report of the Trustees.

A CHARGE of a serious nature was made against Gus C. Lubitz of Pittsburgh, Penn. The chairman of the Board of Trustees appointed court as follows: Messrs. Davison, Perkins, Nissley and Greene, who, after due deliberation on the charges, decided that for good and sufficient reasons his name should be dropped from the roll.

JOSPH WIGGLESWORTH,
 Chairman Board of Trustees.

A Warning Note from the Treasurer.

MEMBERS of the A. A. A. will please notice that the Treasurer will not accept checks on banks out of Brooklyn, N. Y., as to convert such checks into cash requires a discount of from 10 to 25 cents each.

EDMUND J. SHERIDAN,
 Treasurer.

Answer to Mr. Treat's Query Regarding the "Great Serpent Mound" in Adams County, Ohio.

THE latest and most correct survey of this interesting monument, was made some time ago, by Mr. W. H. Holmes of the Bureau of Ethnology, Washington, D. C., and a description of which I have taken from the *American Antiquarian*, Vol. IX, p. 140. As the description is rather long, I will here only quote that part of it which describes the remains referring to Mr. Treat's query:

*** "Beyond this we reach the curious enlargement with its triangular and oval enclosures. Here the body embankment is divided into two parts, which respectively pass to the right and left of the enclosures. At the sides they descend slightly upon the slopes of the ridge and at the widest part of the oval are somewhat obscure on account either of original conformation or subsequent erosion. Beyond these breaks they continue, closing entirely around the oval embankment within. From the point of junction the body continues for a short distance, perhaps forty feet, and then terminates in a rounded and slightly pointed point. This terminal elevation is entirely omitted by Squier and Davis, but is noticed by more recent writers; and on account of the supposed presence of obscure auxiliary ridges of earth extending down the slopes to the right and left, it is likened to the body of a frog by Mr. McLean. These auxiliary ridges, and the minor appended features recognized by Squier and Davis and by some recent visitors, are too obscure to be identified with absolute certainty, and I consider it unsafe to introduce them here. But the entire body of the serpent, and the peculiar features of the enlarged portion, are all distinctly traceable."

A very fine plate of the effigy is given on p. 141 of the above journal. Mr. Holmes appears to think this enlargement to represent the heart of the serpent, and marking the site where were performed the religious ceremonies connected with the work. Later surveys of works formerly gone over by Squier and Davis prove that the work was done somewhat hurriedly, or perhaps not as carefully as could have been done.

A. F. BERLIN

IN THE December number of PLAIN TALK Mr. R. C. Treat asks for information in regard to the Serpent Mound in Adams County, Ohio. Having visited the mound and very thoroughly examined it and being in possession of many publications containing descriptions of said effigy, I take pleasure in submitting the following facts concerning the structure.

Squier and Davis, the well-known pioneers of American Archaeology, mention the Serpent Mound on page 96 of their work, "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley." They give a large illustration and insist that there is no frog effigy such as McLean and Allen figure. Their survey was made in 1847.

Prof. John T. Short, another well-known authority in the "North Americans of Antiquity," (published by Harper Bros. in 1882) on page 34 figures this effigy and omits the frog. He makes the serpent swallowing an egg.

One of the Ohio archaeologists in "Antiquities of the State of Ohio" (By Henry A. Sheppard, 1887) gives a good figure of the Serpent Mound. He calls it "Snake and Egg Mound," a very appropriate name, and describes it at length, quoting the Peabody Museum authority, Prof. F. W. Putnam.

Marquis De Madaiillac, the eminent French anthropologist, in his excellent work, "Pre-historic America," on page 126 describes the serpent and adds:

"His coils are about 700 feet long, and he appears to be swallowing an egg, which he holds in his mouth, and which is represented by a mound, the large axis of which measures 150 feet."

In June of this year (1889) in company with Gerard Fowke (a geologist and antiquarian of superior talent) I visited the great serpent in Adams County. We spent all day looking over the structure. Prof. Putnam of Harvard College, who has purchased the mound, has restored the broken down parts with great care. The conclusion at which we arrived after carefully examining the effigy in search of the "frog" is this: The original Squier and Davis survey, the Putnam survey, and those just quoted are right. There was never a frog represented; if there was it is not visible to us now. Prof. Putnam, who has done more for the mound in study and restoration, also insists he has placed the earth back as the builders left it.

Mr. Allen in his "History of Civilization" on page 352 figures the serpent and uses the same cut as that given by Rev. J. P. McLean. He adds no new features and his account being a simple compilation is valueless.

WARREN K. MOOREHEAD,
 Smithsonian Institution.

Washington, D. C.



VIEW OF THE FORTIFICATION AT 1,000 FEET (FROM MOORHEAD'S "FORT ANCIENT," PAGE 81), SHOWING HOW MASSIVE IS THE EMBANKMENT, EVEN AT A DISTANCE LOOKING LIKE HEAVY RAILROAD GRADING.

Fort Ancient.

WARREN K. MOORHEAD.

I HAVE been asked to write an article upon Fort Ancient. It is almost impossible, with any degree of satisfaction, in so limited a space, to describe this wonderful earthwork. The reader can imagine the position in which I am placed when I tell him that it required a volume of over two hundred pages to express as briefly as possible an account of the fortification and mention of the extensive work done there during the past summer.

But, first, it may be of interest to the readers of *PLAIN TALK* and members of the A. A. to learn how the work was accomplished.

Early in March, 1889, Mr. Gerard Fowke and myself held a long conversation on the subject of future field work. We decided to take up the same territory that Squier and Davis worked forty-six years ago. Mr. Fowke was especially fitted to do field work, as he had served under the Government surveys three years, had been with the State Geologist of Ohio two years, had traveled extensively through southern Ohio, and had seen every mound and earthwork of importance south of the center of the state.

Well, we located at Chillicothe first. There we stayed eleven weeks, and opened thirteen mounds. Then the farmers became so prejudiced against mound exploration that we could not get any more mounds to open, so we located at Fort Ancient. At first we intended to give the place a few weeks examination, then leaving for the Scioto Valley (trusting that by that time the farmers would have quieted down), but we had been there but a few days when we decided to give Fort Ancient a thorough examination and write an account in book form that should embrace everything that could be found out concerning the structure. Arrangements were made with a well-known Cincinnati publisher, and with a large bank account (which is always necessary in attempting field work if one intends to do it right), we secured the necessary

implements and men and began operations early in July.

The work was divided as follows: The writer, general director; Gerard Fowke, director of surveying the fort walls, examined the geological features of the hills about the enclosure, did the mathematical work about the survey, secured altitudes and levels; Clinton Cowen, of Denison University, shared the work with Mr. Fowke, handled the level and transit, directed the movements of the rod, drew the map of the structure, made the cross sections, etc.; W. S. Ralston, stenographer; Mr. Jos. Wigglesworth, of Wilmington, Del., spent a few weeks with the survey and rendered valuable assistance. There were five strong laborers employed to excavate, clear away brush, etc.

The work of surveying was completed in August; the excavating did not end until the latter part of September.

To give the reader some idea of the quantity of specimens found, when packed for shipment to Washington the objects filled nine large boxes and weighed 875 pounds. Of this amount less than 30 per cent. were bones, 10 per cent. flint implements, 15 per cent. pottery, 5 per cent. shells and wood, 12 per cent. fine stone relics, 25 per cent. common objects. The number of skeletons found entire, 37; fragmentary, 230 to 235 (many were so broken we could scarcely determine the number in a grave, hence the uncertainty, 230 to 235.)

Now that the reader understands the survey and has had laid before him the extent of the work, and the way in which it was done, I shall proceed with the description of the fortification without further details.

On one of the highest plateaus in central Warren county, Ohio, overlooking the beautiful valley of the Little Miami River, is the greatest pre-historic earthwork in this country. The earthwork is divided by two deep ravines into two parts, which are known as the old and new forts. The ravines come very near together, and extend parallel about one hundred yards apart for a quarter of a mile. This constitutes what is known as the isthmus. At the northern extremity of this isthmus there runs out from the fort wall, on the east

(Continued on page 11.)

• • PLAIN TALK • •

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT

NO. 5 BEEKMAN STREET, NEW YORK,

BY

PLAIN TALK PUBLISHING COMPANY

(INCORPORATED.)

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

IN ADVANCE

Per Annum , 25 Cents. | Six Months , 15 Cents. | 25 Cents.
 To Foreign Countries, 75 cents per annum.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Per line per insertion, 10 cents; per inch, \$1.00; per column, \$8.00. Space less than one column must be paid at inch rates; less than one inch at line rates. Ten per cent. discount for six months; 20 per cent. for one year. Rates invariable and all advertisements subject to approval.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post Office.

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1890.

OF ALL the things for which a young person should strive, a good character stands easily at the head of the list. It may be hard to get on without wealth or education, but without a good character no permanent and enduring success can be attained.

DID you ever watch the operation of a loom in a woolen mill? So long as the operative attends closely to the work in hand all goes well, but if she pays too much attention to what her neighbor is doing, her work is likely to get "down," and "overshots" appear. So in our life-weaving, many a "break" is made in the web simply from giving too much attention to the warp and woof of others' lives, and too little to our own.

THE *United Presbyterian* says that the ruling Christian sentiment of the day does not tolerate the man who trifles with intoxicating drinks, either by drinking them himself or offering them to others. It sets him down at the out-start as a fool, and if any evil, even the least, comes from his behavior, it condemns him without apology. And it is right, for with a knowledge of the ruin brought about by drink before him, no man has a right to risk his life and that of his friends by a foolish use of it.

THIS is popularly supposed to be the season when good resolutions are made—and broken. One resolution worth making and keeping would be for every reader of this paragraph to resolve to keep an accurate cash account, noting particulars as to all money received and paid out. No matter how large or how small an amount is received the detailed account, at the end of the year, will be of interest. Habits are easily formed, and early training in the keeping of personal accounts will be of value in after life.

THE latest English application of the drop-a-nickel-in-the-slot automatic apparatus, is the adaptation of this principle to the supply of electric reading lamps for railway carriages, and the like. The lamp consists of a clock-work apparatus, contained in a box about five inches square, and by dropping a coin into the slot and pressing a knob the mechanism is set in motion and an electric light obtained, which, after burning for half an hour, is automatically extinguished. The lamps are lighted from an accumulator which can be placed in any portion of the car, and will supply electricity for all the lamps.

FOR convenience of numbering and binding, the November and December issues of PLAIN TALK were considered as belonging to the eighth volume; this issue is therefore the first of the ninth volume. With it some changes have been made. Hereafter advertisements will not be printed in the body of the paper, the pages will be numbered consecutively, and a decided improvement in typographical appearance will be observed. These changes have been made after careful consideration, and it is believed that the paper will, in the future, prove even more acceptable to its subscribers than in the past.

THE many kind words of commendation which have come to PLAIN TALK during the past year have served to strengthen the belief of its conductors that the paper has, in some degree, a "mission." They believe that one reason why the young people of the land buy and read so much trash is because they do not know where to get equally interesting, and equally cheap, wholesome reading. PLAIN TALK does not attempt to cater to a depraved taste. It does, however, seek to become known to all right-minded boys and girls in the land. Present readers can very materially aid the paper by showing copies to friends, by sending to the publisher addresses of those likely to be interested, and by contributing articles to the different departments.

ABOUT a year ago there was a very daring bank robbery at Denver, and full particulars, even to the most minute details, were given in the daily press throughout the country. Not long after, an attempt at a similar robbery was made at Minneapolis, this time not by professionals, as at Denver, but by two young men who had evidently carefully studied the printed reports of the Colorado affair, and laid their plans accordingly. The daily press of to-day devotes too much space to criminal matters, goes too much into detail in such cases, and, in short, caters too much to depraved tastes. We quote from a Western editor, not afraid to speak his mind: "By the assistance of the press of this country, the prize fight has been made popular, and many a desperado finds no small comfort, even compensation, for his imprisonment in the notoriety given him by the daily press of the country. It would seem that the devil has presented the publishers of certain daily papers in America with boots and saddle, and some of them with whip and spurs."

Have you a Library?

HAVE you a library? We do not ask, Have you any books? In these days of low-priced books nobody can be found who does not own at least a few. We ask, rather, if you have a room set apart for use as a library. If you have not, is it not worth while to give the matter consideration?

Your books are scattered here and there. Gather them together, and if you can afford nothing better, make a few sets of hanging shelves to hold them. A few volumes, even, will make an attractive showing, and when once together you will commence to take a pride in your books and will wish to add to them.

After a book-case, or sets of shelves, the next care should be either for a desk or writing-table. Provide it well with writing material of all kinds, and thus make letter-writing a pleasure instead of a task.

Provide a good light for the evenings, and in a short time you will find that your library will be the most attractive room in the house.

Personal Influence.

NELLIE M. RICHARDSON.

THINK NOT, Oh friend, your life will pass
 Unnoticed by;
 Tho' in the darkness and the shade
 Your path may lie,
 Some life will touch yours, howe'er brief
 Your own may be;
 The stain upon that other life
 You cannot see.

A word it may be, that you deemed
 Unnoticed, yet
 In some one's heart, for good or ill
 That word is set.
 Diamonds and pearls the workmen place
 In rims of gold;
 A setting far more rare our words,
 God's pearls, should hold.

An idle dream, your life and mine
 Can never be;
 Surrounded as we are by God's
 Humanity.

A loving word,—how much it holds
 Of friendly cheer;
 'Tis never lost, tho' none but God's
 Own angels hear.

Heights tower above us, but are reached
 By very few.
 The lowlands furnish work enough
 For us to do.

Just where we stand—on mountain top
 Or lowly plain,
 The master placed us there to work,
 Then why complain?

Oh, let us live our daily lives
 The best we can,
 Remembering we are only part
 Of God's great plan;
 The finished pattern in this world,
 We ne'er shall see;
 'Twill greet us in God's sure, but vast
 Eternity.

Money-Making Pursuits for Boys and Girls.

FIRE-KINDLERS.

ONE Michigan boy is making and selling fire-kindlers, and his sales net him a profit of about \$2.00 a week. He lives where sawdust is plenty, and his supplies in this line cost him nothing. Let him tell his own story:

"I take ten pounds of resin at a time and melt it in a big kettle in the yard, putting in also about two pounds of tallow; when all is well melted and real hot I stir in pine sawdust until it is pretty thick. Then, before it has cooled much, I spread it out about an inch thick on smooth boards on which I have scattered a coating of fine sawdust to prevent its sticking. As soon as it commences to cool on the board I mark it off into inch squares with the sharp edge of a board and afterward break it up. I sell to all the neighbors, and am making well at it, I think."

A Vermont lad is also in the fire-kindler business, but he uses dry spruce slabs, sawed about eight inches long, and split up very fine. He dips one end into hot melted resin, and, when dry, ties up his kindlers into five-cent bundles. If his wood is perfectly dry, the kindlers give satisfaction.

CANDY-MAKING.

An Iowa girl of fifteen, whose brother has a stationery and fancy-goods store, has for more than a year kept a showcase supplied with fresh home-made candy. Her brother buys the materials and gives her half the profits. She has become quite skillful, and makes regularly eight different varieties. Good prices are realized, and the young lady is quite proud of her ability to earn money.

In almost any town of fair size at least one dealer could be found who would enter into an arrangement of this kind, and when the trade was once established, and a reputation gained for the maker, the business could hardly fail to be profitable.

Solid Sense from a Humorist.

ROBERT J. BURDETTE, under a semi-humorous vein, deals out many a grain of sound sense. His advice to people to keep a "stiff upper lip" is so good that it is reproduced in full below:

Don't tell people when you are hurt; don't tell anybody how keenly you feel a slight when, perhaps, no slight was intended. Don't get yourself snubbed by people who never see you, and who don't know you, and never think of you. And if you really are hit, and hit hard, it belittles your manhood and it drives away human sympathy when you lift up your voice and howl on the streets. Keep quiet about it. Don't whine; don't yell.

One day at the investment of Vicksburg—it was on the memorable 22d of May—during a lull in the desultory skirmishes that preceded the assault, while I was lying close to the surface of the great, round globe that we inhabit, and wishing I could get a little closer to it, we heard a tremendous howling and shrieking, and down the dusty road from the front came a blue-jacketed skirmisher on the trot, holding one hand up in the other, and the hand he was holding up had no thumb on it. It hurt like the mischief, I have no doubt, but it was only a thumb after all, and how the fellow was howling about it! He was a brave man or he wouldn't have been where he would have lost that thumb. But you would have thought it was the only thumb in the whole United States army, and that no one else on the skirmish line had been hit that morning. So the soldiers saw only the funny side of the picture, and a perfect chorus of howls, in vociferous imitation of the man's own wails, went shrieking up from the sarcastic line of men who were waiting their turn to face death. In a minute another soldier came walking back from the skirmish line. He was walking slowly and steadily; never a moan fell from his compressed lips, though they were whiter than his bronzed face, and he held his hand against his breast. The silence of the death chamber fell upon the line in an instant, as the figure of the soldier moved along the road with the air of a conqueror. Half a dozen men sprang to his side. Tenderly they laid him down in the shadow of a great oak; his lips parted to speak a message to one a thousand miles away, and the line was short one man for the coming assault. He died of his hurt but he died like a king. Oh, my boy! don't yell the lungs out of you over a mashed thumb, when, only three files down the line, a soldier salutes his captain before he faces about to go to the rear with a death bullet in his breast.

You can't help getting hurt. There isn't a safe place in the whole line. There are cruel people in the world who love to wound us; there are thoughtless, heedless people who don't think, there are people who don't care, and there are thick-skinned people who are not easily hurt themselves, and they think mankind is a thick-skinned race; in fact, the air is full of darts and arrows and singing bullets all the time, and it's dangerous to be safe anywhere.

When you do get hit—as hit you certainly will be—don't "holler" any louder than you have to. Grin and bear it the best you may. There are some people so badly hurt they must moan: do you forget your own hurt in looking after them.

"A Very Worthy Little Paper."

CENTER VILLAGE, N. Y., Dec. 30, 1889.

Plain Talk Publishing Co.,

New York.

Please accept thanks for nice volume of Hood's Poems. It came in perfect condition, arriving the day before Christmas. I am very much pleased with the Christmas gift of PLAIN TALK as well as with PLAIN TALK itself. I consider it a very worthy little paper, and deserving of a liberal patronage.

Thanking you again, and wishing success to PLAIN TALK,
 I am,
 Very respectfully,

MISS GERTRUDE MARTIN.

FIRST little girl: "Do you live in a flat? I thought they didn't take children in flats. How did you get in?"
 Second little girl: "I was born in."

PHILATELY.

ALVAH DAVISON, - - - - - EDITOR,
176 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

EXCHANGES will please notice change of the writer's address.

The Thanksgiving number of the *Youth's Companion* contained a short article relative to the new issue of Spain. It was illustrated with a cut of the "baby postage stamp."

An addenda to "Tiffany's Library Companion" is announced to be ready about January 20th. It will be a continuation of the first work, giving the suspensions, changes, etc.

Mr. C. F. Rothfuchs is now in the field with his large new lists of United States and foreign stamps, both wholesale and retail. This gentleman is so well known that further comment is unnecessary.

Mr. W. J. J. Culross, of Everett, Mass., an A. P. A. member, is now publishing a large six-page paper, entitled *The Mystic World*. It is devoted to the interests of fraternal societies, of many of which Mr. Culross is a member.

That long looked for book on the United States envelopes is about to make its appearance. Messrs. Bogert, Rechart and Tiffany have spent a large amount of labor on it, and the work is now practically done. It is expected to be ready for the public on February 1st.

W. W. Jewett, of Portland, Me., prints no less than seven philatelic papers for the publishers. I hope Bro. J. insists on payment in advance, for, although collectors are well meaning fellows, upright, just, and all that, still, in the publishing business, the pocket often is weak when the spirit is willing.

The idea of centralizing the officers of the A. P. A., as proposed at the St. Louis convention, as failed, the vote for and against being a tie. As this involved a change in the laws, a two-thirds vote for the amendment would have been necessary to carry it. It is surprising that of a membership of over seven hundred not over one-half took the trouble to name their choice on the postal furnished by the Trustees. This surely shows a lamentable lack of interest on the part of the members.

In the December *American Stamp Journal* the editor says: "If you take the publications of New England as a whole and place them with the production of any other six states, they would overbalance them in point of merit." Now thereby hangs an argument. The publications referred to as belonging to New England can be purchased for one dollar and are only three in number, while the Philatelic Publishing Co., of St. Louis, issue something like twelve publications, costing at least twelve dollars for the lot. Now add to these the issues of Western Philatelic Pub. Co., and where does New England stand? Our Eastern friend has stretched his imagination.

Because some stamps command high prices, the general public get the idea that any stamps, no matter how common they are, are valuable; or perhaps they get this idea from some advertisement reading: "Old Postage Stamps Bought," their estimate of the "old" being any stamps before the current issue. An illustration of this occurred the other day, and all dealers who have offices in the city have, no doubt, many experiences of a similar nature. I was standing in Henry Gremmel's office, in Nassau Street, when a young lady of about twenty, good looking and nicely dressed, entered, and advancing to the counter said she had some stamps she would like to dispose of. "Did Mr. Gremmel buy old stamps?" "Certainly," and he put on his best smile and prepared for a treat. Carefully undoing a package she disclosed a wooden box, and after lifting the cover of this, she triumphantly turned—1,200 two cent claret of the 1883 issue! Mr. Gremmel didn't swear. He's too good a Christian for that, but I'll bet a Brattleboro his temperature fell ten degrees. He very kindly told her that his stock of these rarities was already so large that he really couldn't take any more at present—and she departed in sorrow.

Mr. John K. Tiffany, President of the A. P. A., spent a week or more in New York recently.

E. W. Voute, late of *Figaro*, has assumed the role of newspaper correspondent. Voute is young, but he shows a heap o' pluck.

Mr. Henry Gremmel has in preparation a large wholesale list of postage stamps. His large foreign correspondence brings him more stock than he can dispose of at retail, hence the new list.

The members' address book will not be printed until the dues have been more generally paid. I understand that the members are very much behind in this matter, and the cause thereof is a mystery.

The stamp business in New York is rushing. R. R. Bogert & Co. state that they have more business than they can attend to, and would like the services of an extra clerk, but to get one well up in stamps is not an easy matter.

The Scott Stamp and Coin Co. have a beautiful store in Twenty-third Street. It is about seventy-five feet deep, with the officers' quarters in the rear, and it is evident to every visitor that expense did not stand in the way of fitting it up.

There is an odd-looking little woman who drops in at the leading hotels two or three times a week looking for foreign coins and postage stamps. She makes a business of buying them to sell again. Her husband has a foreign exchange office near Bowling Green, and she has a stamp curiosity store where they live, up-town.—*N. Y. Press*.

F. J. Stanton appears to have been the only publisher who recognized the near approach of Christmas by issuing a Christmas number. And, by the way, some people will persist in shortening this word to X-mas, thus eliminating entirely the significance of the word. It is the festival of Christ's church, and to leave off the Christ is to destroy, not only the word, but all that it implies.

The vote for Secretary of the A. P. A. shows Mr. Millard F. Walton, of Philadelphia, to be the choice of the Association, with Mr. S. B. Bradt holding second place. Mr. Walton wanted the office, as it is an honor which any member might covet, and now that he has got it he will have his hands full in straightening out the work left by his predecessor. There were two hundred membership cards awaiting his signature, besides a lot of other work. The office of Secretary is no sinecure.

The matter of having a real standard catalogue of postage stamps has often been talked about, but I doubt if we shall ever see it realized. By a standard catalogue, I mean one which all will go by, both dealers and collectors. That such a work would prove of vast benefit goes without saying, but inasmuch as each of the cataloguers have their own ideas regarding certain stamps, it seems a Utopian idea to expect that they will ever get together and issue one jointly. One stamp which I have often wondered at its not being more generally catalogued, is the twenty-four cent purple, of the U. S. 1861 issue. Scott, Mekeel and Durbin only recognize the lilac shades of this issue, while Sterling includes the purple, and from the specimens I have I take it that there is as much difference between the lilac and purple as there is between the lilac and mauve. If this is a fact, why should not the purple be catalogued?

I wonder how many of the younger collectors ever study the backs and faces of their stamps; and by study I don't mean simply to look at them, but to critically examine them for any variation from the regular run. If Sterling's catalogue had not been issued how many would have noticed the varieties of one cent 1857, or of the tree cent of the same date? Then the grilled stamps—what a field they present for study! The boy who doesn't study his stamps would pass a grill measuring 13x16 mm. as an ordinary specimen, when in reality it is worth ten times the ordinary price. To get the most pleasure out of philately a person should be all eyes; and not only does it pay in pleasure, but in hard cash. If you let a good stamp pass through lack of examining it, someone else will secure it and reap the benefit of his observation. "Study your stamps" is a trite saying—many might call it a "chestnut"—but those three words have a world of meaning, and they cannot be repeated too often.

The American Philatelic Association is a good society, and its members desire to see its usefulness increase. There is, however, one thing about it which is bound to retard the growth, and eventually to prove of great injury, unless something is done to remedy it. The thing I refer to is the slowness of some of the members in settling the balances due the Exchange Department. The laws state that "Eight days are allowed after members or Branches receive their statements in which to settle balances due," but how to enforce that law is where the rub comes. Some of the members, after receiving their statements, turn round and ask that their note be accepted, as if a note could be divided among those to whom balances are due! These few delinquents serve to withhold a payment from all the rest of the members, and something should be done in the matter, and that very quickly. The same trouble is seen in the Canadian Association, and it strikes me that the suggestion made some time ago should be carried out, that being that the names of all members in arrears to the Exchange Department be published monthly in the official journal, until the amount is paid. The members have a right to know who are delaying the settlements, and thus place the responsibility where it belongs. As it now stands the Superintendent gets all the blame for delays.

Selling a Collection of Stamps.

To the Editor of Plain Talk:

I have a collection of about 1,000 stamps, besides many duplicates, which I made while in Europe. I would like to sell it, and would you please to tell me what steps to take in order to do so, and oblige. L. B.

Send a statement of what you have to sell to one or two of the stamp dealers who advertise in PLAIN TALK. Ordinarily, a collection of only one thousand varieties will not sell for very much, unless it contains many rarities.

NUMISMATICS.

Contributions solicited. Questions upon any topic relating to coin collecting will be answered in this department by specialists.

The Gold Dollar of 1846.

CAN I find a customer for a half dollar gold piece, coined in 1846 and in perfect condition? I refer to your article on Numismatics in September No. E. D. CHAPIN.
Winchester, Mass.

The Half-Cent of 1851.

NOTICED in a recent number of PLAIN TALK that the half-cent of 1851 was quoted as worth \$5. I have one, and if anybody wants it at that price will sell it.

H. S. S. DAVIS,
Davisville, R. I.

Tons of Coin.

AN ANALYTIC mathematician has been working out some curious estimates from the United States Treasury statement. He finds that the Treasury contains six hundred and one tons of gold, and eight thousand tons of silver. If all this were packed in carts, he adds, and a ton were allowed to each cart, the result would be a string of carts extending nearly thirty-three miles. He has given us the basis for illustrating an advantage existing in our financial system. If that coin was in circulation, about eight thousand six hundred horse-powers of human strength would be in steady expenditure for lugging it around. But the coin value is represented by paper bills, which require little strength to carry. Hence we have, say, eight thousand five hundred horse-powers left free for other purposes. In a year this would amount to at least 2,550,000 of horse-powers saved. Again, if the coin were in constant circulation, the wear and tear would probably amount to several tons per year. Paper money is evidently in the line of economy.

Fort Ancient.

(Continued from page 7.)

and west, a crescent-shaped embankment known as the crescent gateway. At the southern extremity of the isthmus the hill is almost divided by the ravines, which here come within fifty feet of each other. At this point the walls approach within ten feet of each other, and are mound-shaped. This point is called the great gateway, and it is here that we divide the structure into the old and new forts. The embankment on the isthmus between the great gateway and the crescent gateway constitute what is known as the middle fort. The walls of Fort Ancient have an average height of about ten feet on the inside, while their height, on the outside of the extension, next to the ravines, reaches an average of thirty feet in altitude.

The wall is very massive at the base, being about forty-five to forty-six feet in average diameter. In many places there is a layer of large flat limestones on the bottom of the wall and lying upon the surface of the plateau. These were evidently designed to prevent the slipping of the embankment down the hill. The hill upon which Fort Ancient is situated is partly of glacial formation and partly of limestone. Soil of this nature, when very wet, is apt to form landslides, hence the precaution taken by the builders of the earthwork. The total distance around the fort wall, as obtained by a very careful survey, is 18,712.2 feet; the shortest distance in a straight line from the extremity of the old fort to that of the new fort is 4,992 feet. The area enclosed within the fortification is about one hundred and twenty-one acres. Thus, it will be seen that while the embankment does not cover a great space or enclose a great area, it is so tortuous in extent as to measure nearly three and two-thirds miles.

Surrounding the fortification on all sides are artificial terraces, which have been, at a great expenditure of labor, cut into the side of the ravine. These are 132 feet above low water mark of the Little Miami River, and are about 20 feet in width. The highest point of the plateau above low water mark is 269 feet. Adding to this the height of the embankment in the highest place, we have 291 feet above low water level.

There are many stone graves in Fort Ancient. These are generally found on the terraces or on prominent points of lands. They are divided into two classes, the stone graves proper, and the stone heaps. The stone graves are from two to three feet below the surface of the ground, and contain skeletons extended, have large flat stones on each side of them, at the head and feet, and as a covering. The stone heaps are mounds of lime and sandstone covering a number of bodies. These bodies are rarely more than ten or fifteen inches below the surface of the ground, and much broken on account of the weight of the rock above, and much decayed because of the absorption of water from the surface. In the portion of the inclosure known as the new fort are four small mounds which form a rude square, being nearly equidistant from each other. An examination of these mounds yielded nothing of interest.

In the old fort, near the centre of the fortification, is a large cemetery. This is covered by a great deal of broken pottery, bones and flint chips, which result from an Indian village once having occupied this spot. There have been many skeletons found in this cemetery by my party, as well as by other explorers. The skeletons found are enclosed in a rude stone coffin of limestone, and have usually nothing whatever placed with them. The bones are in a very poor state of preservation, and very few of the skulls can be taken out entire. One or two of the individuals found had some yellow flint implements, pottery fragments and stone celts buried with them, which are shown in photographs and drawings made on the spot. The heads that were sufficiently entire to be preserved show a considerable facial angle, and from outward appearance indicate a race of people of some intelligence. The length of the bodies found is but little below that of the average men of to-day. The skeletons under the stone heaps have evidently been placed there in great haste, as there was no time to erect over them a large mound or bury them in deep graves, as were these others.

[To be continued.]

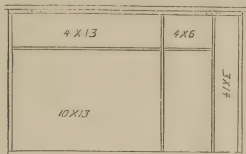
HOW TO DO IT.

Original contributions solicited for this page. Send sketches, no matter how rough, with descriptions, when possible, and illustrations will be made.

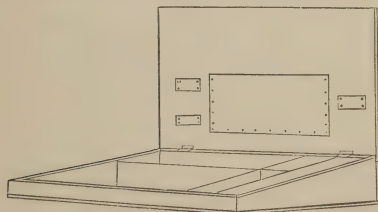
A Portable Writing Desk.

THE top and bottom of the desk should be of inch boards two feet long and eighteen inches wide; the back piece, an inch board two feet long and five inches wide; the front, two feet long and two inches wide; the ends, fourteen inches long five inches wide at the back, and slanting to two inches in front. As will be seen in the illustrations, the top and bottom project an inch beyond the sides and ends. Nail firmly with long slender wire nails.

The inside partitions may be of half-inch board or thinner stuff. The cross-partitions within the desk may be made to fit into mortises in the front and back, which should be sawed before putting the pieces together. More divisions can be added, if liked, or a shelf two inches from the bottom can replace the divisions marked "4x13" and "4x6." These would be supported on cleats. All partitions should be a half inch lower than the sides of the desk, if the lid is



ner stuff. The cross-partitions within the desk may be made to fit into mortises in the front and back, which should be sawed before putting the pieces together. More divisions can be added, if liked, or a shelf two inches from the bottom can replace the divisions marked "4x13" and "4x6." These would be supported on cleats. All partitions should be a half inch lower than the sides of the desk, if the lid is

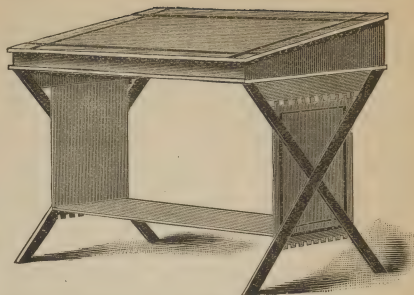


used as suggested in the illustration. The center piece may be a large calendar, card or pasteboard covered with red calico or some pretty fabric, and ornamented with transfer pictures, the others are small cards tacked on and are useful to hold stamps and other small thin articles. The hinges go on inside, and do not show when desk is closed. This writing



desk may be put upon an old sewing machine frame, if one has it, by unbolting and unscrewing the frame, removing the wheel, treadle and table, and fastening this on the top. If no old frame is obtainable, legs may be made as shown here. The pieces should be made of inch stuff, two feet six inches long and two inches wide. Put together and mark for mortises. Saw the mortises half through each one, where joined, and bolt, nail or fasten securely with screws. Saw a one-third inch mortise near the top and bottom for shelves, or only the lower one if but one shelf is desired. Put a strip of inch stuff across the top to fasten to the desk.

Set the legs back three inches from the ends of the desk, and fit shelves into the mortises prepared for them, using long slim screws or wire nails. If the upper shelf is used, one or two drawers may be fitted in upon it, if liked, the fronts being finished to match the top of the desk.



Two half-inch pieces, sawed as shown in the small cut, may be fitted in at the ends, as seen in the completed figure, also a lengthwise panel if desired.

Countersink the nails, and putty up all cracks and nail holes, ebonize with "Diamond" dye, and varnish. Or, finish the top, fronts of drawers, shelf and panels with bronze strips, as suggested in the third cut making the other parts of ebony, or staining them with nitric acid, applied with a rag swab. This is a poison, as undoubtedly all other stains are. Upon pine, it is as fine a stain as could be desired.

FRANK LAUREL.

How to Spell.

TO SPELL correctly is a fine art. Bad spelling is a fault too common with educated people. It is also a common fault among business men. The following simple rules will, if observed, correct the bad spelling of words in ordinary use.

Words ending in *e* drop that letter before the termination *able*, as in move, movable; unless ending in *ae* or *ge*, when it is retained, as in change, changeable, etc.

Words of one syllable, ending in a consonant, with a single vowel before it, double that consonant in its derivatives; as ship, shipping, etc. But if ending in a consonant with a double vowel before it, they do not double the consonant in derivatives; as troop, trooper, etc.

Words of more than one syllable ending in a consonant preceded by a single vowel, and accented on the last syllable double that consonant in derivatives; as commit, committed; but except chagrin, chagrined.

All words of one syllable ending in *l*, with a single vowel before it, have *ll* at the close; as mill, sell, etc.

The words foretell, instill and fulfill retain the *ll* of their primitives. Derivatives of dull, skill, will and full also retain the *ll* when the accent falls on the words; as dullness, skillful, willful, fullness.

To Test Suspected Water.

THE cause of many diseases may be found in impure water. A very simple way to test suspected water is to fill a clean pint bottle nearly full of it, and dissolve in it a half teaspoonful of granulated or loaf sugar; then cork tightly, and keep in a warm place two or three days. If the water becomes cloudy or milky within forty-eight hours, it is not fit for domestic use. Test your spring or well water in this way.

To Measure an Acre.

ALLOW me to point out to you several errors in your item "How to Lay Off an Acre of Land Exactly," which appeared in your December issue.

It reads 110x369 feet; should be 110x396 feet.
 " 240x181 1/2 " " 240x181 1/2 "
 " 440x 60 " " 440x 99 "

Montreal.

VICTOR H. YOUNG.

GAMES AND PASTIMES.

Contributions for this department are solicited in regard to every variety of indoor and outdoor amusement.

The Word Hunt.

THE word hunt closing December 10th, brought fewer lists than heretofore, but many of them showed a vast improvement over previous lists, owing, no doubt, to the special prize for the best appearing list.

If the lists are made according to the rules and suggestions offered, there will, perhaps, be no other suggestions to offer or rules to make.

The prizes for the December hunt on the word Nucliform are awarded as follows:

First prize to C. C. Harris, Windham, Vt., 283 correct words.

Second prize to J. W. Falkner, Freeport, Pa., 281 correct words.

Third prize to Mrs. T. N. McClelland, 83 Spring Street, Lexington, Ky., 276 correct words.

The special prize for the neatest list is, with pleasure, awarded to Miss Gertrude Martin, Centre Village, N. Y., who sent an exceptionally well written list, the words being uniformly, neatly and plainly written.

The January Word Hunt.

THE word selected for the next word-building contest is COGITABUND.

Note this particularly: Hereafter all prize papers must be sent to GEO. D. THOMAS, 14 High Street, Waltham, Mass., who is to have charge of this contest.

The rules governing the contest are as follows:

1. Only subscribers can compete, but any one may send their subscriptions in with their list of words.
2. Proper names will not be allowed, and only words found in the body of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, which will be considered a final authority in deciding all disputed points.
3. Prefixes, suffixes and abbreviations will not be counted, nor will plurals be allowed.
4. Words marked "obsolete" will not be counted, unless they are still current in some of their meanings.
5. Words of different meaning, but spelt the same, count as one word.
6. Words of the same meaning, but spelled differently, count one word for each spelling, unless one is obsolete.
7. No letter can be used more than once in the same word unless used more than once in the word or words used as a basis of the contest.
8. All lists must be written in ink (or on a type writer) and must be alphabetically arranged, and the words numbered consecutively.
9. The full name and address of the contestant must be written at the top of the first sheet, and also the word used as the basis of the contest.
10. In case of a close contest, the number of errors and the general neatness of the work will be taken into consideration in awarding the prize.

The contest will close February 28th, and the result will be announced in the March issue.

The first prize will be any two of our premium books, to be selected by the winner; the second and third prizes, each one of the premium books.

The Alphabetical Cat.

THE first player says: "The cat is artful," or uses any other adjective beginning with the letter a; the second player says, "The cat is amusing," and so on. The game becomes interesting as the ajectives are all used, and if a player fails to respond within the ten seconds, when it is his turn, he pays a forfeit, unless two players in succession fail to respond, in which case the next letter is taken, and so on through the alphabet.

A Curiosity in Figures.

OPEN a book at random and select a word within the first ten lines, and within the tenth word from the end of the line. Now double the number of the page, and multiply the sum by five; add the number of the line; add twenty-five; multiply by ten; add the number of the word in the line; subtract 250. The remainder will indicate in the unit column the number of the word, in the ten column the number of the line, and the remaining figures will give the number of the page. Who can tell why?

Try It and See.

TAKE a twenty-dollar gold piece from your pocket (of course you will have several, but if you don't happen to have one, a cent will do just as well), and tell a person you will place the coin on the floor immediately in front of him, and stand him in such a position that he cannot pick it up. Then place him with his back to the wall, his heels close together, and touching the baseboard. Tell him that he can have the coin if he can pick it up without moving his heels. It will be found to be impossible.

A Wayside Game.

THIS is a good outdoor game, and can be played by two or four persons, or any even number. It is played when riding or walking, those taking part being divided into "sides," those on the right and those on the left. Every four-footed animal counts one for the side on which it is seen; a white horse counts five, a cat ten, and a cat in a window fifty, or "game." Though a very simple game, this will afford much amusement.

Blowing out the Candle.

THIS used to be a famous game in the country, before the days of kerosene lamps. Blindfold one of the party and place him six or eight feet from a table on which there is a lighted candle. Now turn him around rapidly two or three times and let him advance toward the candle and attempt to blow it out. The chances are that he will walk off to some other part of the room and there attempt to extinguish the candle.

Buzz and Buzz-Fizz.

THIS game often makes much sport. All who are to play are seated about the room, and commence by counting in turn, one, two, three, etc. When seven is reached, or any number containing seven, or any multiple of seven, the word buzz must be substituted. Thus seven, fourteen, etc., would be Buzz, while seventeen would be one-buzz; twenty-seven, two-buzz; seventy-one, Buzz-one; seventy-seven, Buzz-buzz, etc. Any player who fails to respond promptly and properly is dropped, and the game goes on with those remaining.

A somewhat complicated amplification of this game is known as "Buzz-Fizz." Buzz is required for seven or any multiple, as in the previous game, but at every recurrence of three or its multiple the word "Quack" must be substituted, and for five and its multiple "Fizz" must be used. Fifteen, then, would be Quack-fizz, and twenty-one Quack-buzz. As an additional complication, for eleven and its multiple "Cock-a-doodle-doo" is required. Few players will survive the first twenty numbers, and still less will be on hand for the thirties, each commencing with Quack. The game would start off in this way: One, two, Quack, four, Fizz, Quack, Buzz, eight, Quack, Fizz, Cock-a-doodle-doo, Quack, one-Quack, Buzz, Fizz, sixteen, etc.

A Few "Catch" Tricks.

PUT one hand where the other cannot touch it.—Done by putting one hand on the elbow of the other arm.

Place a pencil on the floor in such a position that no one can jump over it.—Done by placing it close to the wall of the room.

Ask a question which no one can answer with a "no."—What does y-e-s spell?

Go out of a room with two legs and return with six.—Bring a chair with you when you come back.

Place a newspaper on the floor in such a way that two persons can stand upon it and yet not be able to touch one another with their hands.—Place the paper in a doorway, half in each room; then, when the door is closed, two people can easily stand upon it and yet not be able to touch one another.

NATURAL HISTORY.

WILL H. PLANK, - - - EDITOR,
KANSAS CITY, KAN.

Contributions to this department are solicited from all readers. Questions will be answered by competent authorities.

Why Do Flowers Sleep?

THAT they do is evident to the most casual observer. The beautiful daisy opens at sunrise and closes at sunset, whence its name, "day's eye." The morning-glory opens its flower with the day. The "John-go-to-bed-at-noon" awakes at four in the morning, but closes its eyes in the middle of the day, and the dandelion is in full bloom only during the hours of strong light. This habit of some flowers is certainly very curious, and furnishes one of the many instances which prove the singular adaptability of everything in nature. The reason is found in the method by which this class of flowers is fertilized. It is obvious, says Sir John Lubbock, that flowers which are fertilized by night-flying insects would derive no advantage from being open by day; and, on the other hand, that those which are fertilized by bees would gain nothing by being open at night. Nay, it would be a disadvantage, because it would render them liable to be robbed of their honey and pollen by insects which are incapable of fertilizing them. It is possible then that the closing of flowers may have reference to the habits of insects, and it may be observed also in support of this, that wind-fertilized flowers never sleep.

Cunning Reynard.

A FUNNY fox-chase is reported in this county, writes a New York *Sun* correspondent from Lancaster, Pa. At Landis Valley a fox had been started and thirty-five hounds and a half dozen cross-country riders were in lively pursuit. The trail led among the fields and over the hills for several miles, and then took the hounds to the turnpike. There, in the middle of the pike, the scent was lost. The dogs maneuvered and beat about here, there and everywhere, but the trail could not be found. A teamster, on his way to town with a load of hay, had passed the spot where the trail was lost in the pike only a minute before the hounds burst on the road in full cry. The teamster stopped on seeing the pack and the riders following them to watch the result of the maneuvering.

"Which way did he go?" shouted one of the hunters. "Dunno!" the teamster shouted back. "Didn't see him."

After watching the dogs and the hunters for a few minutes the teamster went on. The hunters unanimously declared that there had never before been such an inexplicable loss of a fox's trail, and had to give up the chase. After going a mile or so, as he tells the story, the teamster with the hay stopped his horses to talk with an acquaintance he met on the road, and, as they were talking, a fox jumped out of the hay at the rear end, landed in the road and trotted leisurely away.

The Hair-Worm.

THIS hair-worm in the basin on my table is so far removed from apparent structure and function that she looks like a strand of horse-hair in the water. She has only the senses of taste and touch; she has neither brain nor heart; she has a few nerves, but no eyes, ears nor nostrils; only a mouth and an alimentary canal. Yet she is a wife and mother. Her infancy and maidenhood are passed in the body of a beetle or a grasshopper; she is one of those wretched things we call an entozoan or interior parasite. When mature she leaves the body of her host and becomes a denizen of the water or some moist place in which she deposits her eggs.

The late Professor Agassiz tells of a hair-worm sent to him—a creature eighteen inches long—in a bottle of water. She looked like a thread of black silk tangled at the bottom of the vessel. Professor Agassiz untangled the thread; he found that she had coiled herself around her eggs which made a mass about as large as a grain of coffee. The worm at once swam back to her eggs: she knitted herself through

and through the mass, at the same time coiling about it to defend it. Again the professor separated her from the eggs, some of which fell away. The mother once more knitted herself through and around them, trying in the tenderness and most pathetic way to gather up the loose eggs. In this she failed, but died trying to discharge the sacred duty. Separating her finally from the eggs, Professor Agassiz examined them and found them closely fastened, in a chain twelve feet long, by means of a cement secreted in the mother's body. A short portion of this chain was cut off and put under the microscope; its eggs were counted. Multiplying by the number of eggs on this section, the estimate for the whole chain was eight millions of eggs. Yet, careful as nature is to provide in this lavish way for the perpetuation of creatures subject to a thousand dangers from cold, drought and greedy foe, she is equally careful to implant, even in this black string which has neither brain nor heart, the highest moral attribute that the soul of man can know.

Capturing a Tiger.

ON ONE occasion Jamrach, the noted London dealer in wild animals, had a fine young Bengal tiger sent in from one of the India steamers. Jamrach's men were very busy, so they stood the box "marked as per margin, said to contain one (1) tiger, at owner's risk," on its side against the wall anywhere just for a minute or two. They knew, of course, as men do, that nothing happens in a minute or two. But the carpenter that made the box, being an economist, hadn't seen the use of wasting wood on the bottom, and the tiger, hearing queer noises and nosing strange odors, as of things to eat, knocked the bottom out of the box, and lounged out of the yard into the street. A small boy who had come to see fun was leaning against the gatepost, eating bread and sugar, and him the tiger took along in his teeth, as a cat carries a kitten. One of the men shrieked "Hi!" and Jamrach, hearing the cry, instantly and without a word seized the tiger by the slack of his handsome hide and actually climbed the tiger hand over hand till he had the beast by the right ear. Then the tiger dropped the boy to attend to Jamrach; one of the workmen attended to the tiger with a crowbar, others came with ropes, the tiger was caged, the boy ran home, and the magistrate made Mr. Jamrach pay \$500 or so for keeping a dangerous nuisance.

Wild Birds Tamed Without Caging.

SOME years ago I lived with my family in a suburb, a home where birds of many species abounded. The house was surrounded by forest trees, and the birds built nests and reared their young unmolested. My daughter, who was then a girl of ten years, took special enjoyment in feeding the birds by casting out crumbs from the table. She never frightened them, but always moved slowly and manifested great gentleness and kindness toward them. By the walk from the front door to the street was an evergreen bush. In this a pair of robins built a nest about four feet from the ground. By this nest I daily passed and repassed, taking care not to disturb the bird which was hatching out her young. Many times a day my daughter approached the nest, but cautiously avoided disturbing the bird. So familiar had her presence become that the robin would sit on her nest until almost touched by my daughter's hand. When the young were hatched then her delight was unbounded, and she began to feed them crumbs from the table and worms which she searched for in the yard and garden. Between the care of the parent birds and that of my daughter, the nestlings fattened and grew with rapidity. Soon the little ones recognized my daughter's presence and opened wide their voracious mouths for the dainty bits she had provided for them. When they were full-fledged and ready to leave the nest they submitted to being handled and caressed without resistance, and would follow her around the yard as chickens follow the mother hen. If the pair—there were two of them—were up in the trees, she would call, "Robbie! Robbie! Robbie!" and they would fly to her as readily as chickens. Not only would they follow my daughter, but they soon became attached to me, and would often come at my call and perch on my hand or knees, and swallow the earthworms I had dug for them.—*Wm. D. Butler, in the Swiss Cross.*

ALL SORTS.

"And still the wonder grew
That one small head could carry all he knew."
Goldsmith's Deserted Village.

Saved By Kindness.

WE WILL call him Jim, for I do not remember his name. He had lost all respectability, and was a common gutter drunkard. His family had disowned him, and would not recognize him when they met him. Occasionally he would get a job at the stables where Dr. Davis kept his horse. One morning the doctor laid his hand on Jim's shoulder and said:

"Jim, I wish you would give up the drink."

There was something very like a quiver of the man's lips as he answered:

"If I thought you cared I would; but there's a great gulf between you and me."

"Have I made any gulf, Jim? Think a moment before you answer."

"No, you haven't."

"If you had been a millionaire could I have treated you more like a gentleman?"

"No, you couldn't."

"I do care, Jim."

"Say it again, won't you?"

"I do care, Jim," with a tender little emphasis on the "Jim."

"Dr. Davis, I'll never touch another drop of liquor as long as I live. Here's my hand on it."

This was fifteen years ago; and "Jim" is to-day the respectable and respected Mr. ——. Saved by a kind word! Will you make an effort this week to win some one by kindness?—*Christian Advocate.*

The Way Van Wyck Saved His Bacon.

SENATOR VAN WYCK was out on a stump before an immense audience in Nebraska. There were thousands there to hear him open the campaign. As usual, he grappled with the monopolists. Right in the middle of his speech a shrewd old fellow in the edge of the crowd sang out:

"Senator Van Wyck, will you let me ask you a question?"

"Certainly I will," answered "Old Van."

"Answer me this, then," said the old man, "Isn't it true that you came here from the East on passes, and isn't it true that one of them was given to you by the Union Pacific Railroad, which you are now attacking?"

As quick as a flash the Senator put his hand in his pocket, saying as he did so:

"Of course I did! Here are a lot more of them I got there; and I will take as many more as I can get. 'Always forage on the enemy,' is my motto."

Dollars and Dollars.

WHEN you are young, how well you know
A little money makes great show,
Just fifty cents will cause you bliss—
'Tis then a dollar looks like this:



But when you're old and bills come due,
And creditors are dunning you,
And every cent you spend you miss,
'Tis then a dollar looks like this:

\$

—*Chicago Sun.*

How the Raven Came to be Black.

A RAVEN one day told Apollo that Coronis, a Thessalian nymph whom he passionately loved, was faithless, and the god shot the nymph with his dart; but hating the tale-bird,

"He blackened the raven o'er,
And bid him prate in his white plumes no more."

Respect for His Superior.

AN IRISH corporal, who now and then indulged in a noggin of right poteen, was thus accosted by his captain, whilst standing at ease: "Pat, what makes your nose so red?" "Plase yer honour," said Pat, "I always blush when I spakes to an officer."

A Small Boy's Composition on Breath.

BREATH is made of air. We breath with our lungs, our lights, our liver and kidneys. If it wasn't for our breath we would die when we slept. Our breath keeps the life agoing through the nose when we are asleep. Boys that stay in a room all day should not breathe. They should wait till they get outdoors. Boys in a room make bad, unwholesome air. They make carbonic acid. Carbonic acid is poison—than mad dogs. A heap of soldiers was in a black hole in Calcutta and carbonic acid got in and nearly killed every one before morning. Girls kill the breath with corsets that squeeze the diaphragm. Girls can't holler or run like boys because their diaphragm is squeezed too much. If I was a girl I had rather be a boy, so I can run and holler and race and have a great big diaphragm.

HOW many bones in the human face?
Fourteen, when they're all in place.

How many bones in the human head?
Eight, my child, as I've often said.

How many bones in the human ear?
Three in each, and they help to hear.

How many bones in the human spine?
Thirty-six, like a climbing vine.

How many bones in the human chest?
Twenty-four ribs, and two of the rest.

How many bones in the shoulder bind?
Two in each—one before and behind.

How many bones in the human arm?
In each one, two in each forearm.

How many bones in the human wrist?
Eight in each, if none are missed.

How many bones in the palm of the hand?
Five in each, with many a band.

How many bones in the fingers ten?
Twenty-eight, and by joints they bend

How many bones in the human hip?
One in each, like a dish they dip.

How many bones in the human thigh?
One in each, and deep they lie.

How many bones in the human knees?
One in each, the kneecap, please.

How many bones from the leg to the knee?
Two in each, we can plainly see.

How many bones in the ankle strong?
Seven in each, but none are long.

How many bones in the ball of the foot?
Five in each, as the palms were put.

How many bones in the toes half a score?
Twenty-eight, and there are no more.

And now altogether these many bones fix,
And they count in the body two hundred and six,

And then we have in the human mouth,
Of upper and under, thirty-two teeth.

And now and then have a bone, I should think,
That forms a joint, or to fill up a chink,

A sesamoid bone, or a wormian, we call,
And now we may rest, for we've told them all.

PUZZLEDOM.

CONDUCTED BY "FISCO."

Address all communications pertaining to this Department to EDGAR D. MELVILLE, Puzzle Editor PLAIN TALK, 524 Upland Street, Chester, Pa.

Answers to Puzzles that Appeared in November Number.

- No. 1.—Barrow, Marrow, Harrow, Nar-row.
No. 2.—Prepare for winter.
No. 3.—
A
ARM
ARMOR
MOB
R

New Puzzles.

No. 1.—SQUARE.

1. Caution.
2. Parched.
3. To increase.
4. The Garden of Paradise.

Cedar Rapids, Ia. SARAH B. HRBEK.

No. 2.—ANAGRAM.

HE TEL' PET HOPE.

The father stood by the complete
This only child to speak,
To tell him that they soon would meet
Within a day—perhaps a week.

"All right, dear pop," the answer came,
"I hear your loving voice;
I am all right; hope you're the same;
To be with you soon is my only
choice."

Jersey City, N. J. INCOGNITO.

No. 3.—CHARADE.

My first is a man, or rather, his name;
My second a letter that commences the
same;
My last is an animal both fierce and
strong;
My whole is a flower that is heard of in
song.

BROTHER JONATHAN.

THE PRIZE WINNER:—J. W. Faulkner,
Freeport, Pa.

PRIZES.

A copy of Last Days of Pompeii and a large bundle containing an assortment of periodicals.

The above-named prizes will be awarded on the following plan: If an even number of correct answers are received they will be sent to the one sending the first; if an odd number, to the one sending the middle correct answer, unless divisible by 5, in which case they will be given for the last correct answer.

Answers to puzzles appearing in this issue will be published in the March number, 1890, and answers will be received up to Feb. 28th, but no answer received after that date will count.

Amateur Press Notes.

(Address everything to Frank C. Smith, Editor, 56 Orange Street, Waltham, Mass.)

AMATEUR journalism is now a recognized institution in this country, as a factor in juvenile education, and therefore demands recognition from journals devoted to the young. It fills a niche peculiar to itself, by training its devotees to a trade, nay, an art, that is an important agent in the world's affairs. In conducting this department we shall endeavor to present to our readers newsy items and articles concerning it. Papers received will be noted, and if space permits, a short review of contents. The associations and conventions will be noticed, and all other matters of interest. In this manner we shall endeavor to conduct an entertaining column. Publishers desiring favors will note our address.

The lately issued *Bay State and New England Officials*, the *Clover Leaf*, and the *National Amateur*, are models of all that an official organ should be. Vigorous activity is the general summary of the associations represented. The 'Dom should congratulate herself on her representation.

Christmas was the occasion for all amateurs to disport with enlarged and attractive editions. The *Monthly Visitor*, of Haverhill, Mass., enclosed within its bronzed cover its usual good store of reading matter. The *English High School Enterprise*, of Lynn, Mass., has twelve pages with cover; the *Mission Courier*, of Wilmington, Del., twelve with cover; the *Enterprise*, of Philadelphia twelve and cover; the *Times*, Haverhill, Mass., eight; the *Item*, Clinton, Iowa, six and cover; and last but not by any means the least, the *Mercury Magazine*, Burlington, Iowa, forty-four covered pages, and the *Crescent*, Westfield, Mass., with sixteen beautiful pages and cover. These are, unmistakably, signs of activity!

SAYS the *Pacific Humorist*, of Oakland, Cal.: "PLAIN TALK is a handsomely illustrated monthly, with bright stories and sketches."

FREE READING.

We have on hand, and are constantly receiving, large quantities of the best Magazines, Story and Comic Papers, Philatelic Journals, etc., and will send free by mail a pound package for ONLY TEN CENTS. These papers are first-class and are sure to please. We have customers who order several packages regularly every week. Try a package and you will want more. Satisfaction guaranteed. Address

PLAIN TALK PUB. CO.,

5 Beekman Street, N. Y. City.

P. O. Box 3529.

Circulars Received.

FROM Wm. W. Adams, of Mapleton, N. Y., we have a copy of "Price List No. 4," which is devoted particularly to relics of the Iroquois or Six Nations.

R. W. Mercer, Cincinnati, sends out some very interesting circulars to collectors of Indian relics.

EXCHANGES.

Exchange notices are inserted free of charge, but it must be understood that we can take no responsibility concerning exchanges effected by means of this department, neither will the reliability of exchanges be guaranteed. To avoid any misunderstanding in the matter, it would be advisable for those contemplating exchanging to write for particulars to the addresses before sending the articles desired. Notices must be plainly and concisely written, following the general arrangement given below, and on one side of the paper only. Send as often as you please, but not more than one notice for single issues, and no more than 40 words not inserted. Free to subscribers only. Notices are not repeated, i. e., a notice can have but one insertion.

If you want a dog for a pet, hunter or watch dog, get a Cocker Spaniel. They are handsome, intelligent and not expensive. For sale at Mount Wake Kennel, 30, Framingham, Mass. D. G. GILMAN, 40 Boylston Street, Boston, Mass. 55

A lovely complexion and beautiful hair within the reach of all; nothing but the purest essence; combination of fruits and flowers; a remedy which heals and beautifies at once. Simple, cheap and reliable. Agents wanted. Liberal terms, particulars five cents. Address, H. Box 36, Wells, York Co., Me. 56

Rudge, Coventry rotary tandem tricycle, all nickel plated, for a gasse launch. 6301 A. LUTZWEIG, 58 E. 10th Street, New York City. 55

Wanted.—Telescope, Microscope, histories, and other books not of fiction. Will exchange odd-bound books for same. J. R. K., 447 Elk St., Albany, N. Y. 55

Wanted.—Stamp, Stamp, Stamp, and curious papers and stamps. Small camera for 1. Wanted, also, to buy or trade for my plates. H. J. STIMPSON, Tusculum, Va. 56

For sale or exchange—Graves target gun, also 25c. stamp album and 31 stamps, for cigarette pictures. Will print your name on each stamp. Address, BENJ. B. BENEDICT, Paterson, N. J. 55

Five rare foreign stamps for every hundred Canadian stamps of any value (except ones and threes) sent me. Enclose return postage. E. J. PHILLIPS, 100 Wilton Avenue, Toronto, Canada. 55

50 foreign stamps for a large copper cent or two war tokens. Must be to good condition. WALTER G. LOCKER, Hubbardville, N. Y. 55

An Imperial Stamp album and 700 stamps, including some very rare U. S. stamps for sale. Full list furnished on application. Address, BOVIER HAWKE, East Branch, Del. Co. 55

A 7½x13¼ Excelsior self-inking press, with or without type. Has been in use very little. Will sell cheap for cash, and will cut, and will cut, and will cut, together or separately. For particulars, address W. B. HENNESSY, Eagle, Wis. 55

I will send the receipt for making Pine Peppermint Lozenges, Silver Ink and Indelible Ink for any 13 numbers of Yankee Blade. Many of the above receipts sell at 50 cents each. A. E. WARDEN, Jr., Macon, Mo. 55

Books, etc., to exchange for U. S. postal cards. For 50 or 100 well assorted postage stamps and unpaired stamps of one country I will send sets of U. S. 6c, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c, 40c, 45c, 50c, 55c, 60c, 65c, 70c, 75c, 80c, 85c, 90c, 95c, 1.00. Address, Box 217, Calmar, Iowa. 55

Wall cabinet, books, curiosities, telephones, McKinnion stigmatograph pen, book-keeper's eraser and letter opener, jointed fishing rod and reel, steel pens, fish hooks. Want electrical supplies, sporting goods, printing, and all kinds of stamps. L. E. HUDSON, Jefferson, Jefferson Co., N. Y. 55
What have you to offer for 25 large fine starfish? Want coins, curios, minerals or relics or stamps. Box 4, LaFayette, R. I. 55

Consumption and all lung and throat troubles can be cured without medicine. Within the reach of everyone. Send stamp for particulars to A. Lock Box 37, Milton, Wis. 55

Each person who is not a subscriber to the *Yonth's Companion* and will subscribe through me, sending the price \$1.75, will receive several valuable prizes in return. BELLE BABCOCK, Malvern, Ark. 55

Will exchange 50, 10 Golden Days, 61 Vol. of *Yonth's Companion*, serials and outfit and about 50 to 100 old and new novels for a good self-inking printing press and outfit, type writer, pens, or will exchange separately for U. S. and foreign stamps. W. M. THURMAN, Jr., H. S. Fern, N. Y. 55

Ten stamps of postmarks (cut round) for every foreign coin sent to my address. Enclose stamp for return postage. Postmarks are all from Germany. JACOB RUPP, Nonn, 40th Street, Springfield, Ill. 55

Two fine arrow heads and three philatelic papers sent for one dime; dated before 1870. G. D. DUKES, Millersburg, Ohio. 55

Cream of roses, which any lady can prepare, and which beautifies the skin and removes all pimples and blotches; perfectly harmless. In 10 stamps. U. S. H. H. Chemist, 113 Madison Ave., Baltimore, Md. 55

100 fine foreign stamps for 35¢ (U. S.) or one perfect Indian arrowhead. State where found. WALTER O. LOOMIS, Hubbardville, N. Y. 55

A. H. Reed, Paducah, Ky., has a Champion hammerless side snap single barrel shot gun (silver-mounted) and a scroll saw (cost \$15), vols. IV, XI, inclusive of *Gold-O-Days*, to exchange for a 52-inch rubber-tired steel-spoked bicycle (tanged on, not spokes), to 55

MINERALS. TWENTY SPECIMENS FROM Pennsylvania, size 1 1/4 inches, labeled, name and location in divided box, by mail pre-paid, for fifty cents.

ALAC J. KIRK, Fremont, Chester Co., Pa.

WANTED For Secret Service.

Intelligent young men, capable of acting as detectives. For full particulars, address
THE NATIONAL SECRET SERVICE (Incorporated)
No. 834 Broadway, New York City.

Wonderful Discovery.

3 POUNDS BUTTER FROM 2 QUARTS OF SWEET MILK.

Very simple and very little expense, and leaves milk sweet and good after taking out butter. Receipt 25 cents.
F. P. PARSONS,
Renville, Minnesota.

VOL. VIII. OF PLAIN TALK,

Comprising the 14 numbers from Nov. 1888, to Dec., 1889, inclusive, can be supplied for 50 cents, postage paid; or bound neatly in cloth, with gilt-edge titles, for \$1.50.
PLAIN TALK PUBLISHING CO.,
5 Beekman Street, N. Y.

Imperial Self-Inking Stamp, pen & pencil
Any name in Rubber, 15 cents. Club of 8, for \$1.00.

Making
Name Town & Station, each \$1.40
Rubber Stamp Co., New Haven, Conn.
Est. 1876. Best references. Store & factory, 1143 Center St.

Photo Copying.

AGENTS WANTED.

\$100 A MONTH and **\$5.00 Outfit Free!** Agents wanted in every town. Send for circulars to small pictures to copy and enlarge to a beautiful Oil Painting. The biggest thing out. Send for circulars, etc. Restorative Copying Co.,
N. WINSLOW & CO., 274 Grand Street, N. Y.

GLOVES. Do you want a first-class pair of GLOVES at a fair price? If so, write to me at once, as you can save money. Our Gloves are all A No. 1, and warranted. Fine Mochas for ladies and gentlemen. Also Fine Kid, Dogskin, etc., and heavy Gloves of all kinds. If you desire a particular kind, state it in your letter.
If you want a RUBBER STAMP or anything in that line, let me know it.

DAVID VAN SICKLER,
Johnstown, N. Y.

1492 CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. 1892.
The Patent Columbus Egg is a novelty. Why? Because it will have its own way, taking an upright position; size of hen's egg, made of durable material, and handsomely enameled. Ladies find the egg desirable for table and toilet vases, also to decorate for Easter and other purposes. Novel paper-weight for adults, and amusing toy for children. Mailed, postpaid, for 15c; two for 25c. Write for prices by the hundred.
The "NECROMANCERS' CHAIN" of 38 Running Rings, a wonderfully interesting combination, mailed, postpaid, for 15c; each two for 25c.
WILCOX, CRITTENDEN & Co., Middletown, Conn.

Job Printing.

At Half Price. For 30 Days Only.

Envelopes, Bill Heads, Labels, Tags, Monthly Statements, per 100, 50c; per 500, \$1.00. Butchers' and Grocers' Bills, per 1,000, \$1.00. Remember, these are best quality of goods, and sent postage paid anywhere in the U. S. Twenty-fifth Annual Card and Pen, 10c. Handy Water Pens, \$2.00 per 100; retail at 5c each. Address
A. V. KERR, Putney, Vt.

NAPKIN RING Enamelled in jet, your name on it in gilt, 15c; 1 doz., plain; 35c; 50c, name, hand-painted, \$1.50 doz. Open Stand and pin cushion, blue or red plaid, natural shell sides, cut glass button, gilt base, 50 cts. Pin Cushion, beautifully hand-painted in floral designs, plush ribbed, silk ribbon hanger, 85 cts. Floral Books, bound in cloth, stamped in gold and black, 250 to 500 pages, large print, extra paper, 1,000 prominent works, 45 cents. All above sent postage paid. Enclose two-cent stamp for circulars and prices. Agents, we are the manufacturers; deal with us direct.

WING MFG. CO., Norwood, B. I.

JOE PRINTING

FREE BY MAIL.

100 x 6 inch Envelopes, any wording, 40c; 250 for \$1; 100 1/2 inch envelopes, any wording, 40c; 250 for \$1; 100 business cards, any wording, 40c; 250 for \$1; 3x5 cards, any wording, 40c; 250 for \$1; 3x5 cards, any wording, 40c; 250 for \$1. REMEMBER, these are BEST QUALITY of goods, and sent postage paid anywhere in the U. S. Address

WILKINSON, "THE PRINTER,"

Leslie, Mich.

978 Eagle Printing Outfit. 20c

Contains three alphabets of rubber type, type holder, bottle of indelible ink, ink pad and tweezers; put up in neat box, with full directions for use. Satisfaction guaranteed.
Eagle Supply Co., New Haven, Ct.

To introduce our publications, we offer **146 full-size pieces music**, including 112 Jigs, Polkas, Waltzes, Reels, etc., for piano or organ; 12 selections for the violin, and 449 of the most popular songs of the day arranged by that great composer CHARLES D. KELSEY. This grand collection and our complete catalogue of musical books, from songbooks to books of 100 songs, sent to any address on receipt of 20 cents, and 40c for a Catalogue of Music.
405 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

POSTAGE STAMP PHOTOGRAPHS.
A correct image of yourself or any other article in postage stamp form. They are also gummed and perforated.
Send 1.00 for \$1.50.
Send 2c stamp for sample and illustrated circulars. Address **H. A. HYATT,**
N. E. Cor. 8th & Locust Sts., St. Louis, Mo.

CHAUTAUQUA
LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC CIRCLE.

TWELFTH ANNUAL COURSE.
ROMAN HISTORY AND LITERATURE, ART, PHYSICS, AND POLITICAL ECONOMY.
150.00 ENROLLED.
SYSTEMATIC SELF-EDUCATION.

Address CHAUTAUQUA OFFICE,
PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

OUR \$1 A WEEK Club System while as convenient to the buyer as a wholesale spot cash system to us. The co-operation of the club members sells out 38 watches in each PHILA. 895 Watch Club, and get each watch from the Club for each watch before it goes out, though each member only pays \$1 a week. This is why we give you more for your money than any one else and why we are doing the largest watch business in the world. We sell only first quality goods, but our prices are about what others get for second quality. Our \$10 Silver Watch is a substantial Silver (not imitation of any kind) Stem-Wind American Lever Watch—either hunting case or open. Our \$35.00 Watch is a Stem-Wind, Open Face, first quality, stiffened Gold American Lever Watch, guaranteed to wear 30 years. It is fully equal to watch sold for \$35 by others. We find it amazing that others get such much more satisfactory and serviceable than any Gold Case watch as sold at the same price. Double the material, a cheap solid case are invariably thin, weak of low quality, and worthless after short use. Our \$35 Watch contains numerous important patented improvements, of vital importance to accuracy, and is called *Patented Waterproof, Patent Stem Wind, etc.* which we control exclusively. It is fully equal for accuracy, appearance, durability and service, to any \$75 Watch. Open Face or Hunting. Our \$43.00 Railroad Watch is especially constructed for the most exacting use, and is the best Railroad Watch made. Open Face or Hunting. All these prices are either all cash or in clubs. **\$1.00 a week.** An Atlas Watch Insulator given free with each watch.

The Keystone Watch Club Co.
Main Office in Co's Own Building
604 WALNUT ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Agents Wanted.
Ajax Watch Insulator, \$1.00
A perfect protection against magnetism.
Patent Watch. Sent by mail on receipt of 10c. P. M. We refer to any Commercial Agent.

PHOTO of your future Husband or Wife FREE! Send stamp for Postage. CLIMAX CO. CHICAGO, ILL.

~ ~ Magic Tricks ~ ~

—AND—
Jugglers' Goods for Amusement and Stage Performing.
Send 15 cents in stamps for large Illustrated Catalogue. Price List Free.

OTTO MAURER, 321 Bowery, New York.

SCHOOL TEACHERS AND OTHERS.
Send 12 cents for 12 samples of large, handsome, illuminated cards, suitable for School Rewards, Christmas or Birthday. These cards would retail for about 25 cents. Address
TOWNSEND & ROYER
175 S. Howard St., Akron, Ohio.
The amount sent for samples may be deducted from first order amounting to 50 cents or over.

BANG-UP
DESIGNING AND ENGRAVING
Done at Rock Bottom Prices.

WRITE OR TALK TO THE ARTISTS DIRECT! DO NOT LET MATERIAL MEN AND BUNGLEERS PLAY WITH YOUR WORK.

TITLE PAGES A SPECIALTY.
CUTS FOR ALL PURPOSES. EXECUTED NEATLY AND QUICKLY.

STOCK CUTS
ON HAND.
MYERS BROS.,
ARTISTS AND ENGRAVERS,
85 JOHN STREET, NEW YORK.
Send 10 cents for illustrated catalogue of new designs.

"Fort Ancient."
A NEW WORK ON
Ohio Valley Antiquities,
BY
WARREN K. MOORHEAD,
ASSISTED BY COMPETENT SCIENTISTS FROM WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE.

Fort Ancient is in central Warren County, Ohio; it is recognized by all archeologists, whether American or foreign, to be the greatest and best preserved earthwork to be found in the Mississippi Valley. Mr. Moorhead, with a party of surveyors, spent the entire summer at this enclosure. The whole structure was explored, surveyed, photographed and mapped. The result of the labors of the party is placed before the public by Clarke Clark the Cincinnati publisher, in a large volume which consists of 210 pages, 35 full-page illustrations, a large folding map of the structure and surrounding country.
Illustrated prospectus mailed free to any address.

PRICE OF WORK, \$2.00, POSTPAID.
WARREN K. MOORHEAD,
Smithsonian Institution,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

